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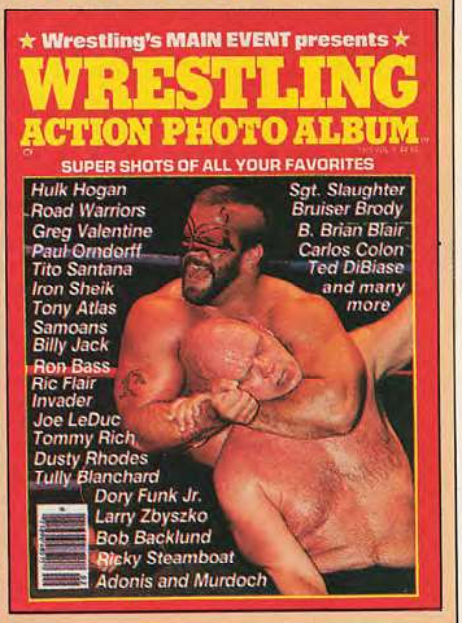

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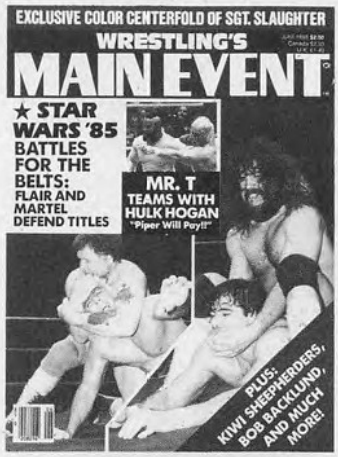

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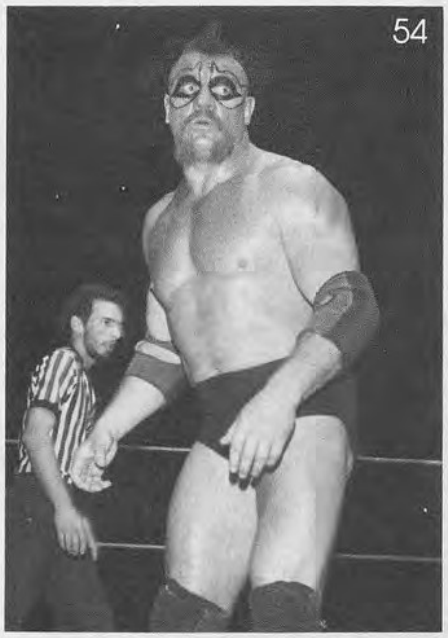

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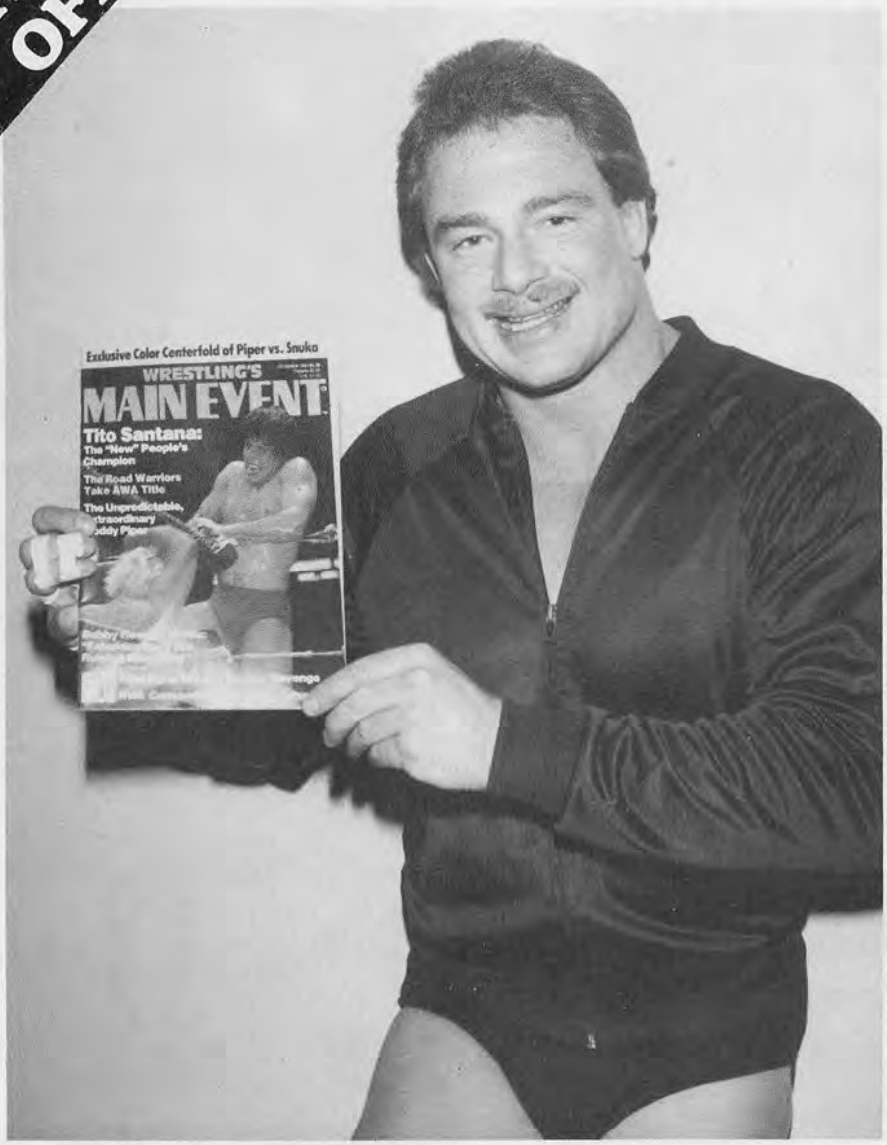

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EDITOR'S CORNER

It's truly amazing just how BIG wrestling has recently become! Diehard afficionados have always loved the sport, but now it seems that everyone is getting into the act. "Chic" celebrities such as Andy Warhol, Danny DeVito, Joe Piscopo, and even Mr. T admit that they never miss a match. Most of this new found celebrity status can be traced directly to Cyndi Lauper. But while Cyndi is getting all the credit for the resurgence in wrestling via her "Rock-n-Rasslin' Connection," the first real queen of

Lou Albano and Debbie Harry at Madison Square Garden.

"Rock-n-Rasslin'" was the star of Blondie, Deborah Harry. Ms. Harry and her boyfriend Chris Stein were regulars at the Garden cards long before it was the "in" thing to do.

Besides Blondie, let's not foreget the late Andy Kaufman, who was actually the first celebrity to give wrestling national exposure. One of Andy's favorite skits was wrestling with women, and he even went so far as to declare himself the "Inter-Gender Champion!" Several years before the wrestling explosion, Andy went on *Saturday Night Live* accompanied by his boyhood idol, "Nature Boy" Buddy Rogers, and challenged any woman in the house to a wrestling match. Andy also challenged the "King" of wrestling, Jerry Lawler, to a match once, which unfortunately resulted in a broken neck for Andy when he was victim to Lawler's devastating Piledriver. Following this incident Kaufman was forced to wear a neck brace for several months, during which time he collaborated with Classie Freddie Blassie on the movie *My Breakfast with Blassie,* and even appered with the "Hollywood Fashion Plate" on the *David Letterman Show.*

A couple of years ago Andy Kaufman and Debbie Harry actually starred in a short-live Broadway play entitled "Teaneck Tanzi and the Venus Flytrap." The show was about a professional lady wrestler from New Jersey who specialized in a modified Flying Body Press. Debbie Harry had the title role and after three months of training with British mat-star Brian Maxine, Blondie could have whipped any lady wrestler in the business, even the Fabulous Moolah! Unfortunately, professional wrestling did not enjoy mainstream popularity at the time, and the play closed after only one night! If it had debuted today, the show would have been a sure-fire smash hit!

No matter what is yet to come, it's important to remember people like Blondie and Andy Kaufman who were instrumental in making celebrities and the public-at-large aware of wrestling's existence during a time when the sport was not in vogue. In the next issue of MAIN EVENT we will feature a special history of the "Rock-n-Rasslin' Connection," including photos and comments from some of the rock musicians who were involved with, and singing about, wrestling long before Cyndi Lauper came along.

* * *

With all the exposure that professional wrestling has been getting on television and in the newspapers, it's only natural that someone would come along and try to knock it. By now the "20/20" program on ABC-TV is past history. Everyone heard what Eddie Mansfield and Jim Wilson had to say, and we all saw how "Dr. D" David Schultz responded to a question posed by John Stossel. Besides this, Abraham Bernstein, a state senator from the Bronx, NY, introduced legislation which would prohibit professional wrestling in New York State due to what he termed "brutal and violent gladiator showmanship." In response to Bernstein's attack, WME's managing editor Jeremy Tepper appeared on ABC's *Eyewitness News* to discount the liklihood of such a ban being passed.

You can believe what ever you

Cyndi Lauper and Hulk Hogan at the Grammy Awards.

Photo by Wade Byers/Agence France Presse

want to believe, but the fact remains that professional wrestling is currently enjoying greater popularity than ever before, and the "20/20" report and the proposed ban have had no effect whatsoever on the attendance at the matches. In fact, on Sunday, February 24, just three days after the "20/20" program, over 19,000 fans—the largest crowd in New Jersey wrestling history—came to the Meadowlands to see the "Pro Wrestling USA" spectacular.Besides this, Madison Square Garden has sold out not one but two wrestling cards in the month of March, the second of which will be beamed around the world on closed-circuit screens! Whatever controversy may arise, there is no question that the "Sport of Kings" is alive and well—and BIGGER than ever before! □

LETTERS

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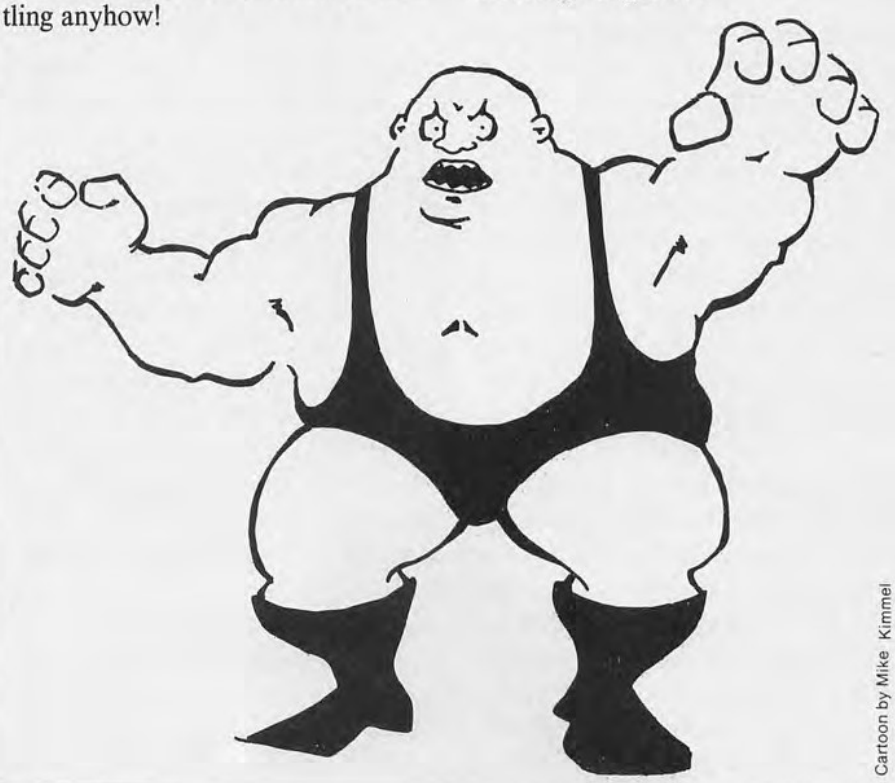
KING KONG BLIMPY

I used to sit by the TV every Saturday and watch Gordon Solie call King Kong Bundy a giant on Georgia Wrestling. Well, I think King Kong Bundy is just a big, fat pig! The "real" giants are in the WWF, like Andre the Giant and Big John Studd. I'm glad King Kong Bundy left the Georgia wrestling area, but it doesn't matter to me . . . I quit watching NWA and AWA wrestling anyhow!

Mike Cramerding
Cincinnati, Ohio

Ed. Note: Sorry to disappoint you Mike, but King Kong Bundy has gone the way of other wrestling titans and joined the ranks of the World Wrestling Federation. Does this mean you'll go back to watching NWA and AWA stars, or will you give up watching wrestling altogether?



Cartoon by Mike Kimmel

PRIDE OF THE USA

There is a man that we all know
He's known all over wherever he goes
Don Kernodle, we are proud to say,
is known as the "Pride of the USA!"
Don was a champion and knew how it felt
When he held the World's Tag-Team Championship Belt
Don will be a champion again we agree,
Because Don is the greatest and always will be!

Linda, Becky, and Robin Massaro
Virginia Beach, VA

WINDHAM BLOWS IT

The purpose of this letter is to say that I totally agree with al Rivera's article on Barry Windham. We all realize that the WWF is basically a charade, a comic imitation of pro wrestling. I felt sick to my stomach when I heard that Barry had joined up with them.

This boy had great promise. His abilities could have taken him straight to Ric Flair's gold. Now his talents are wasted. I wonder how Blackjack Mulligan will feel when he realizes the role he's played in ruining his son's career.

Debra Hughes
Sarasota, FL

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WOMEN'S WRITES

I would like to know why your magazine very seldom has pictures or articles on women wrestlers. Isn't it their profession too? Don't they work just as hard as the men do? Personally, I think it's very unfair. You're not only discriminating against women wrestlers, but you're cheating us out of some very important information. It's not that I don't like your coverage of the men, I love it, but could you please cover the women more?

Pam Pennington
Paris, Texas

Ed. Note: We at MAIN EVENT would like to apologize for not including more articles on the great queens of the ring, but unfortunately there aren't enough ladies championships for the women to make the news as often as the men. Just the same, we promise to include a special feature next month on the WWF ladies title in turmoil, as Wendi Richter and Lei Lani Kai battle it out for the gold.

YOU GOT IT!

A small group of ladies gather together on weekends and travel to different arenas just to watch our favorite wrestlers. We are really hung-up on this sport. I for one faithfully buy your magazine every month, and was nominated to write this letter in hopes that you would add a new section to your magazine. By following the sport on TV we already know most of what you publish. We would like to read more about the personal side of these wrestlers. Marital status, age, birthdate, hobbies, goals, family, and anything other than what goes on in the ring. It would add to the excitement, and you could even put a color poster in street clothes instead of in trunks. I think alot of fans would enjoy this kind of feature.

J. Say
Seneca, PA

Ed. Note: Thank you for your suggestion, but if you haven't noticed, we already include a special feature each month entitled "Out of the Ring." This issue we have a behind the scenes look at Jesse Barr, who recently recaptured the Florida Championship from B. Brian Blair. As for the centerfold, I'm afraid more than a few of our readers would be disappointed if they were deprived of full-color photos of their favorite wrestler's magnificent physiques.

VALENTINE'S HEY-DAY

I am so glad that Greg Valentine has finally earned himself some recognition by winning the WWF Intercontinental Title. The man is a true legend and deserves much more press coverage than he gets. I've always been a big fan of the "Hammer," and if he'd gotten more shots at Hogan I'm sure he would've eventually taken that title. I say "thanks" to the editors of WME for the fine article and full-color pin-up of Greg "the Hammer" Valentine.

Greg "the Hammer" Valentine may not be the most popular Intercontinental Champion of all time, but he's definitely one of the best.

John Philbrook Jr.
S.L.H., NJ

Ed. Note: We're glad to hear that someone appreciated the color centerfold of Greg Valentine in our February issue. We at WME feel that Valentine is definitely one of the top athletes in wrestling today, and under the newfound guidance of Jimmy Hart we're sure he'll be able to hold onto the intercontinental belt for a good long time.

AN ODE TO THE SARGE

Sergeant Slaughter,
He's my man
I am his number one fan!

Elaine Wrobel
Bronx, New York

PIPER LIKER

I'm writing this letter to let you know that I'm a big fan of "Rowdy" Roddy Piper. I love the way he puts show-offs like the Junkyard Dog in their place.

As far as Blackjack Mulligan and his "Barbeque Pit" are concerned, he doesn't even come close to the "Rowdy One" in wit or style. Furthermore, he's certainly not as handsome as Roddy either.

Also, there's this blood feud involving "Shnook-Shnook" Snuka. I can tell you one thing, it won't be Roddy's blood that will be spilled. I feel Snuka has made one of the gravest errors in wrestling by letting another wrestler get involved in his personal feud. That wrestler is the Tonga Kid, who I feel is nothing more than a little boy in a big man's sport. The man being the "Legend Destroyer" himself, "Rowdy" Roddy Piper.

A female fan of Roddy's
Charleston, SC

KUDOS FOR KERNODLE

I think they ought to ban Ivan and Nikita Koloff for their actions against the "Pride of the USA," Don Kernodle. I know he was once in cahoots with the Koloffs, and was one of the most hated men in wrestling, but since he was double-crossed by the Russians he has been loyal to the U.S. and the fans.

The Koloffs broke Don's neck and almost put him out of wrestling for good. I just wish they would get out of America and go back to Russia before Don sends them there himself. Don's a proud man and he will do what needs to be done to set things right!

Jason Thomas
Glenwood, WV

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WRESTLING'S ROUND-UP

We would like to welcome everyone to another edition of Wrestling's MAIN EVENT. As we go to press, March has been designated "MAIN EVENT MONTH" on New York radio station 92 WKTU FM. In addition to their usual rock ticket giveaways, WKTU is also giving away wrestling tickets to the March 17th WWF card at Madison Square Garden, the "Pro Wrestling USA" extravaganzas at the Capital Theater and Hunter College, as well as the WWF mat-mania to be held on March 31st at Madison Square Garden. With D.J. Jay Thomas at the helm, 92 WKTU is definitely the #1 Rock-n-Rasslin' station in the nation!

Over 19,000 wrestling afficionados turned out for "Star Wars '85," the first "Pro Wrestling USA" card held in New Jersey's Meadowlands. After three-and-a-half hours of non-stop excitement, **Sgt. Slaughter** won the "Star Wars" tag-team trophy and a nice, cool $100,000. A full feature on this senasational night of mat action can be found elsewhere in this issue. . . .

Mr. T a professional wrestler? It sounds impossible but it's true! The leader of the "A-Team" will be forming a "Dream Team" with WWF Heavyweight Champion **Hulk Hogan** to battle "Rowdy" **Roddy Piper** and "Mr Wonderful" **Paul Orndorff** at the WWF's sensational "Wrestlemania" card scheduled for March 31st at Madison Square Garden, and transmitted to closed circuit screens throughout the world. The bout came about after Piper and Orndorff attacked Mr. T as he came to **Cyndi Lauper's** aid during last month's Hogan/Piper title match broadcast over MTV. After Mr. T removed Cyndi from the scene as she shouted her disapproval of Hulk Hogan being double-teamed, he mounted the ring apron only to be hammered to the mat by Piper and Orndorff. This uncalled for action by the two bad boys prompted Mr. T to join forces with the Hulkster, and their upcoming tag-team battle should be one of the wildest bouts of all time, with special guest referee **Muhammad Ali** on hand to keep the action under control. . . .

Sgt. Slaughter has wrestled NWA World's Heavyweight Champion **Ric Flair** on two occasions recently, and in both instances the Sarge was disqualified. In the title bout in Baltimore, Slaughter was disqualified for hurling Flair over the top rope, while in Philadelphia the Sarge lost after accidentally Clotheslining the referee. In both bouts the Sarge had the advantage until the unfortunate disqualification, and it's clear that his performance proves that Slaughter has what it takes to win the World's Title. . . .

Bruiser Brody has been spending quite a bit of time wrestling in the Midwest, and the big man is now headed for the Mid Atlantic area. It's going to be interesting to see how the fans there will respond to the wildman as he pursues the unpopular **Chief Wahoo McDaniel's** United States Championship. . . .

Lei Lani Kai from Hawaii is the new WWF Ladies Champion after she defeated **Wendi Richter** in Madison Square Garden with the help of her manager the **Fabulous Moolah.** Right before the fatal pin, Moolah attacked Richter's manager, rock-star **Cyndi Lauper.** When Wendi saw what was happening, she ran to help Lauper but Moolah quickly clobbered her. Wendi hit the mat with a thud and Lei Lani pounced on her for the victory. A rematch is now an order, and look for an update on this touchy situation in the next issue of MAIN EVENT. . . .

Superstar Billy Graham is now wrestling in the Mid Atlantic area and is teaming up with **Konga the Barbarian** under the guidance of the infamous

D.J. Jay Thomas of 92-WKTU has declared March "MAIN EVENT month" at the New York radio station where Sgt. Slaughter's recording of the "Cobra Clutch" is currently topping the charts.

Photos by George Napolitano.

Big Bruiser Brody has moved to the Mid Atlantic area in an effort to win Wahoo McDaniel's United States Championship.

The legendary Fabulous Moolah managed Hawaiian star Lei Lani Kai to the WWF Ladies Championship in Madison Square Garden.

Paul Jones. The unpredictable duo is currently gunning for the NWA World's Tag-Team Title held by **Manny Fernandez** and **Dusty Rhodes**. . . .

Manager **Jimmy Hart** is establishing quite a stable of top grapplers in the WWF, including Intercontinental Champion **Greg Valentine, Jim "the Anvil" Niedhart,** and now **King Kong Bundy!** Valentine might want to watch out for another newcomer to the WWF, however, the ever-popular **Ricky Steamboat**. . . .

No one can touch **Tully Blanchard** and his Mid Atlantic Television Title! Blanchard has always been tough, but now that he's got **Andrea the Giant,** a/k/a "Baby Doll," to back him up the "Superbrat" is virtually invincible. . . .

WWF Tag-Team Champions **Barry Windham** and **Mike Rotundo** are definitely one of th top duos in wrestling. Unfortunately, the "American Express" is running out of competition since thrashing the likes of **Nikolai Volkoff** and the **Iron Sheik, The Moondogs,** and former champions **Adrian Adonis** and **Dick Murdoch**. . . .

The Koloff's have joined forces with **Krusher Khruschev,** and the Ruski threesome is truly awesome! It would be interesting to see how the Russians would fare against the **Fabulous Freebirds.**

Jesse Barr has regained his Florida State Title from **B. Brian Blair,** but don't count the tenacious Blair out so soon. . . .

"Gentleman" **Chris Adams** is still the most hated man in the World Class area, and is now teaming up with Texas State Champion **Gino Hernandez** to take on **Kevin** and **Kerry Von Erich** two-on-two. . . .

The Fabulous Ones finally gave up on defeating the **Road Warriors,** and have become the new Southern Tag-

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Team Champions in Mid-America. There still doesn't seem to be a team around that can touch **Precious Paul Ellering's** "Legion of Doom"....

Kendo Nagasaki has looked sharp in his "Pro Wrestling USA" bouts, as has the sensational **King Tonga**....

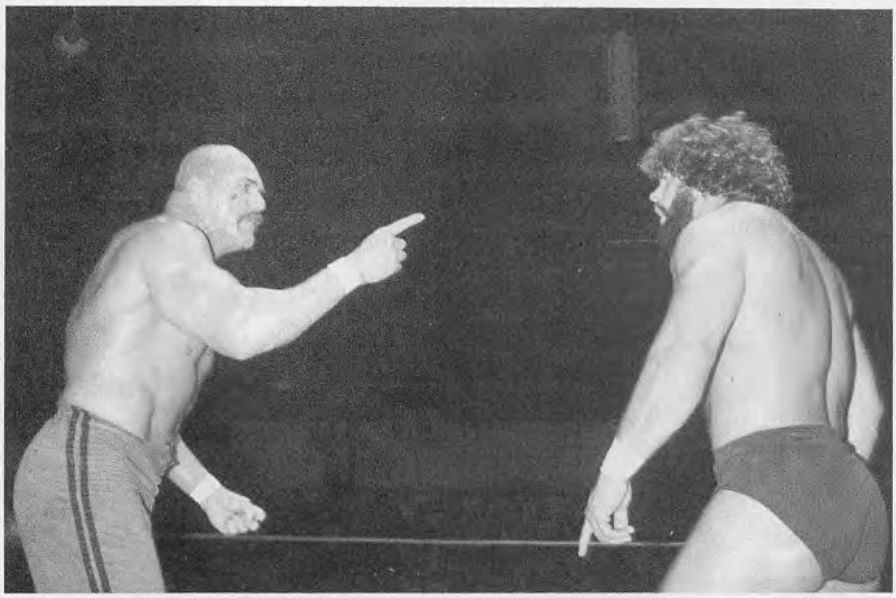
The "Boogie-Woogie Man," **Jimmy Valiant** has made a triumphant return to the Mid Atlantic area, albeit without his trademark beard....

Kamala, the Ugandan Giant, has been spending his time in the Mid South and World Class area, where the **One Man Gang** is also wrestling under the management of **Gary Hart**....

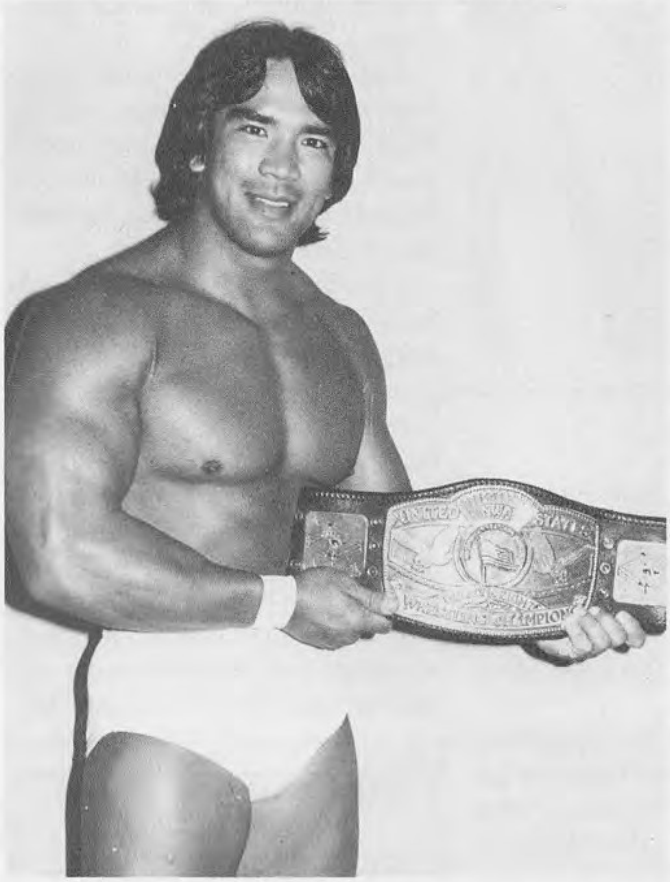
Wrestling is currently undergoing such widespread popularity that LJN Toys Ltd. has produced a series of WWF action figures. So far these flexible palymates include **Hulk Hogan, Jimmy "Superfly" Snuka, Andre the Giant, Big John Studd,** and the **Iron Sheik,** and plans are already underway for new toy designs as well as children's linen and pajamas. The next step would be a WWF "Superheros" wrestling cartoon, which is another plan already in the works....

Dory Funk, Jr. has defeated **Carlos Colon** for the NWA Universal Championship, and hopes to keep himself at least a Bullrope's length away from all contenders.

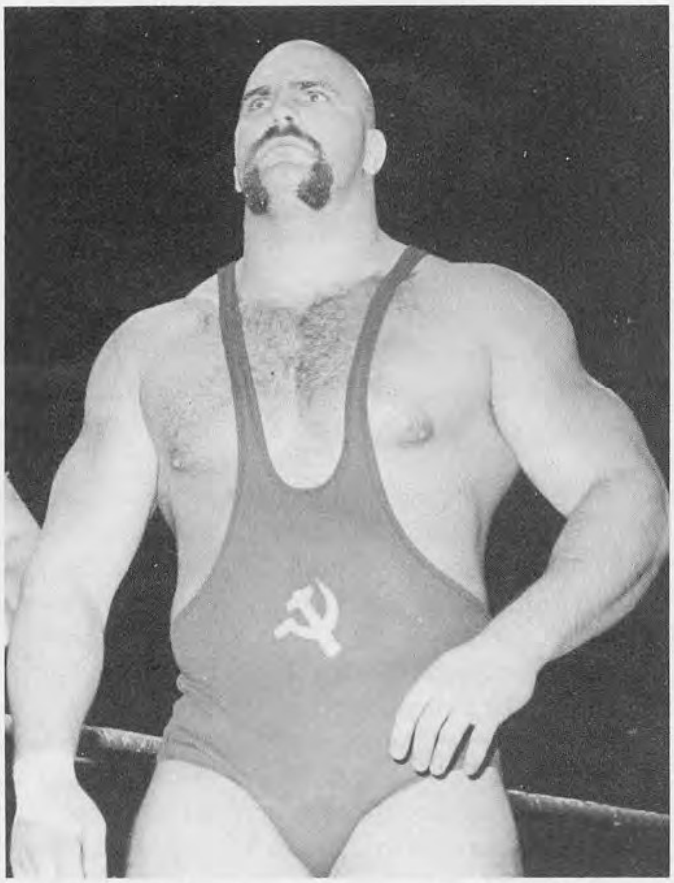
That's about all for now. Look for us on your favorite newsstand again next month!! □



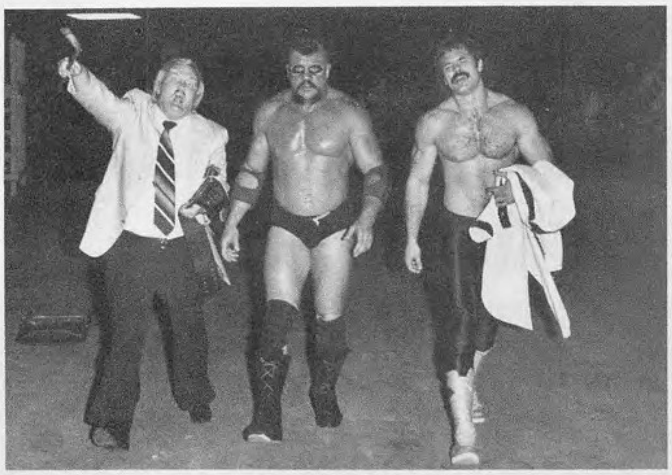
Superstar Billy Graham is hunting for a title in the Mid Atlantic region where he is now managed by the nefarious Paul Jones.



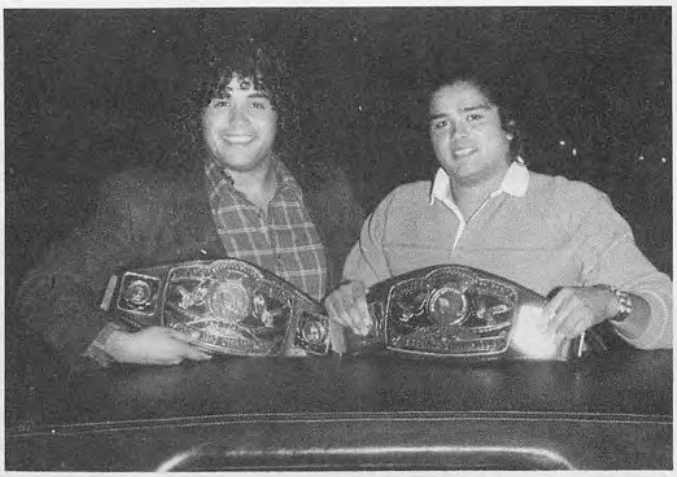
Hawaiian-born Ricky Steamboat is now appearing in the WWF where he hopes to give Greg Valentine a run for his money.



Nikita Koloff has been teaming up with Krusher Khruschev lately, allowing Uncle Ivan to concentrate on managing the two young Russians.



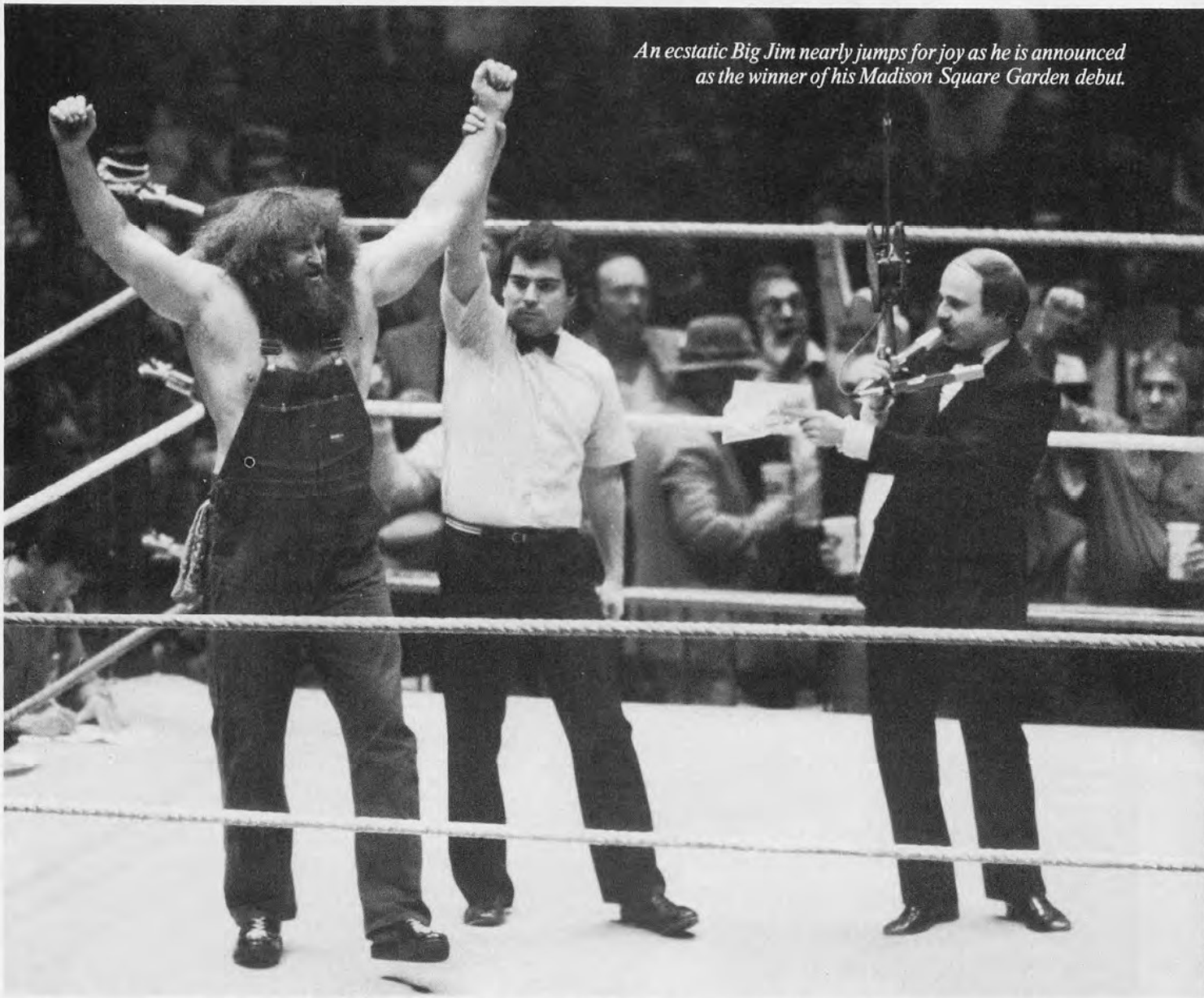
The excitable Percy Pringle is taking Florida by storm since obtaining the contracts of the maniacal Missing Link and the flamboyant Rick Rude.



Mark and Jay Youngblood have been involved in a violent feud with the P.Y.T. Express, but have managed to emerge with their U.S. Tag-Team Title intact.

"Superbrat" Tully Blanchard has enlisted Andrea the Giant as a valet to assure that he retains his cherished Television Title.

HILLBILLY JIM:
Homespun Hellraiser!



An ecstatic Big Jim nearly jumps for joy as he is announced as the winner of his Madison Square Garden debut.

Is he a man or a mountain? This is what some WWF fans are asking about the humble giant who climbed from the front rows right into the center of the ring. Here, for the first time, is the huge Kentuckian's incredible success story!

By MIGHTY MIKE KIMMEL

Anyone who believes that America is no longer the land of opportunity has obviously not made the acquaintance of a certain sizable gentleman from Mudlick, Kentucky. The extremely personable Hillbilly Jim is, in fact, proof positive of the classic ideal that good fortune and success come to those who work hard, persevere, and can maintain a positive attitude throughout their struggle for recognition. In this sense, Hillbilly Jim has come to personify the essence of the American Dream, and in so doing, has generated boundless excitement in the World Wrestling Federation.

Traditionally, the WWF selects only

the finest experienced stars available for its arenas. Grappling greats from throughout the world bombard the federation's offices daily with photos, biographies, and impresive listings of ring accomplishments in hope of a contract to wrestle under the ever expanding WWF banner. Hillbilly Jim, however, brimming with his own special blend of enthusiasm, is not exactly the type of man one might expect to make his WWF entry in the conventional manner normally required.

A mountainous felow, Jim had only very limited experience in wrestling and other sports before his professional ring debut. For months on end, he endeared himslef to WWF television viewers as the frenetic, personable and (gulp!) towering ringside spectator at most televised and live presentations of WWF wrestling.

Jim took especial delight in cheering on fan favorites like Hulk Hogan, Tony Atlas, and the Brisco brothers. Conversely, the gargantuan backwoodsman had little tolerance for the rough-house tactics of Nikolai Volkoff, the Iron Sheik, and particularly Big John Studd. In fact, during a televised taping of an Adonis/Murdoch non-title tag-team match, Big Jim came very close to entering the ring and putting a stop to Adrian Adonis' violent rulebreaking shenanigans. After that match, Salvatore Bellomo embraced Jim on his way back to the dressing room. Bellomo seemed surprised at Jim's willingness to risk his neck, and presumably intended the embrace both to calm the big man down, and to indicate his own heartfelt appreciation and concern for Jim's continued well-being. After all, most any normal man, no matter his size, cannot hope to survive a confrontation with an angry professional wrestler.

This interaction with the wrestlers, though seemingly unimportant at the time, was the first in a series of steps which would eventually propel the mountain man into the rank and file of professional wrestling. The next move, however, was to be made by "Rowdy" Roddy Piper. Ever on the alert for new talent and sources of income, Piper invited the enchanting gargantua onto the set of "Piper's Pit." Once there, the devious Scotsman proceeded to patronize Big Jim and finally offered him the paltry sum of two hundred dollars per week to wrestle under the management of Roddy Piper. Hillbilly Jim did not become flustered at all. On the contrary, he handled himself with the casual aplomb of a city slicker by responding that he was anxious to begin wrestling under the watchful eye of the very best man in the wrestling game, namely WWF champion Hulk Hogan.

We are all aware of the appalling humiliations inflicted upon Andre the Giant by the combined forces of Big John Studd, Ken Patera and their nefarious manager Bobby "The Brain" Heenan (take two giant steps backwards if you missed my story on this ugly incident in the April, 1985 issue of Wrestling's MAIN EVENT). Andre

Big Hillbilly Jim peers out from under his leather hat as his name is announced for the first time in Madison Square Garden before his match with the veteran Rene Goulet.

In a gesture of Southern hospitality, big Jim offers the Frenchman a friendly handshake before the action begins.

Hillbilly Jim has Rene Goulet wrapped up in the suffocating Bear Hug he learned from rasslin' grizzleys in the wild. Goulet has no choice but to submit (above), at which point the big man drops the exhausted Frenchman to the floor.

suffered the beating of his career at the hands of these men, who further disgraced the giant Frenchman by cutting off his hair after knocking him unconscious. In any event, a similar fate very nearly befell the incredible Hulk Hogan during another televised incident.

The team of Patera and Studd were delivering an unusually brutal beating to the relatively inexperienced duo of Jim Powers and Jose Luis Rivera. Hulk Hogan witnessed this match and, when he could stomach the torture no longer, took it upon himself to lend a hand (and a pair of python-like arms!) to the outmatched underdogs. The WWF champ was soon overpowered and ensnared in Patera's Full Nelson. Bobby Heenan then produced the same pair of scissors used on Andre, and made his way towards the inviting and unprotected golden locks of the Hulkster. Before history could be re-enacted, however, Hillbilly Jim left his seat and leaped into the ring to aid the helpless Hogan. Attacking Heenan from behind served to break strongman Ken Patera's concentration long enough for the Hulk to muster his power and break loose from the binding hold. Hogan swiftly cleared the ring of all opposition and when the Hulkster left the ring, he did so together with his new found ally.

Hogan later announced that he would repay the stranger's kindness by taking him uner his wing. Big Jim would be trained by the champion himself, who would keep a watchful eye on the newcomer's ring progress and career. Several videotaped training sessions were aired for television which demonstrated Jim's steady improve-

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The referee explains to Big Jim that he has to break his hold since Goulet's feet are on the rope. When the Hillbilly complies, Goulet's face goes crashing to the mat-floor.

Hillbilly Jim is so full of pride after his victory that he inflates his sizable muscles to the Garden fans' delight.

ment. Though Jim was progressing at a rapid pace, his mentor felt he was still unprepared to wrestle professionally. Big Jim was still somewhat uncoordinated and needed to learn more standard wrestling holds. True, the man was strong as an ox, and at 6′7″ tall and 286 pounds of raw-boned muscle, he presented an imposing figure. But we have seen many such men tumble to defeat when not properly prepared and supervised for their new career.

The Hillbilly was persistant, however, and each time the Hulkster pointed out and tried to correct a flaw in Big Jim's style, he was met with the emphatic question, "When do I wrestle?" Hulk tried to point out the illogic of Jim's approach by asking exactly how he might be able to beat his first opponent. In reply the Hillbilly wrapped a powerful bearhug around sparring partner A.J. Petruzzi who emitted a howl of pain. Apparently, Jim had once bested a grizzly bear in much the same fashion. Realizing his determination had caused injury to a man who had been assisting in his training, Jim became sheepish and apologetic. Hogan, however, viewed the incident as an indication that Jim, unpolished as he may be, should indeed be given an opportunity to wrestle without further delay.

Jim was victorious in his first professional match, surprising his teacher, his opponent, and even himself with an early submission via bearhug. He has used this formula in many subsequent matches and has been very successful with it. Jim is thus coming along quite well, shows excellent potential and is already one of the most popular men in the WWF. He can block an opponent's Bodyslam effectively, and has seldom been off his feet. This is extremely helpful strategically, as most wrestlers know that the way to beat a very big, tall man is to take him to the mat and work on his legs. Jim should have a long and posperous career ahead, and he hopes to someday from a tag-team combination with the Hulkster. Jim has shown us that the impossible can come true, and his honest dedication is an inspiration to us all. □

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KAMALA!!!

Brutal Bigman Does the Ugandan Stomp!

In an exclusive interview with his trainer "Friday," WME learns that the terrifying cannibal may not be as dumb as he looks!

By TODD ABRAMSON

Classie Freddie Blassie has always professed a fondness for foreign wrestlers over their domestic counterparts. Freddie cites both their innate cruelty and their willingness to adhere to master ring strategists like himself as reasons. Certainly one of the best examples of Mr. Blassie's theory would be his former charge, the Ugandan Giant Kamala. Indeed, the very name Kamala is almost synonymous with cruelty.

On his native Uganda turf Kamala was reared on a strict diet of cocoanuts and elephant milk. This accounts for his tremendous size and a fair amount of his considerable strength. This growing physical prowess did not go unnoticed by the natives, including the notorious Idi "Big Daddy" Amin. Amin's vaunted Secret Police were under strict orders not to mess with the young Kamala, even though he was a mere 280 pound strappling at the time!

A great deal of mystery surrounds Kamala's presence at the top of the American wrestling ratings. In what may have been the opportunity of a lifetime, I was granted an exclusive interview with Kamala's man "Friday." I became a little bit cautious when I was blindfolded upon entering the limousine (which Friday hired at his personal expense, I might add), but I realized that gaining any insight whatsoever into the Ugandan Giant was too great to pass up for selfish reasons of personal safety.

After a good deal of travel, we reached our unusual destination. The stifling heat almost overcame me, but I realized I was merely a guest and the environment was specially prepared to

Photos by Al Rivera and George Napolitano.

After dishing out terrific punishment, Kamala generally saves his best for last, namely the devastating Ugandan Belly Flop. After this, it's only up to the referee to count to three and then peel Kamala's opponent off the mat.

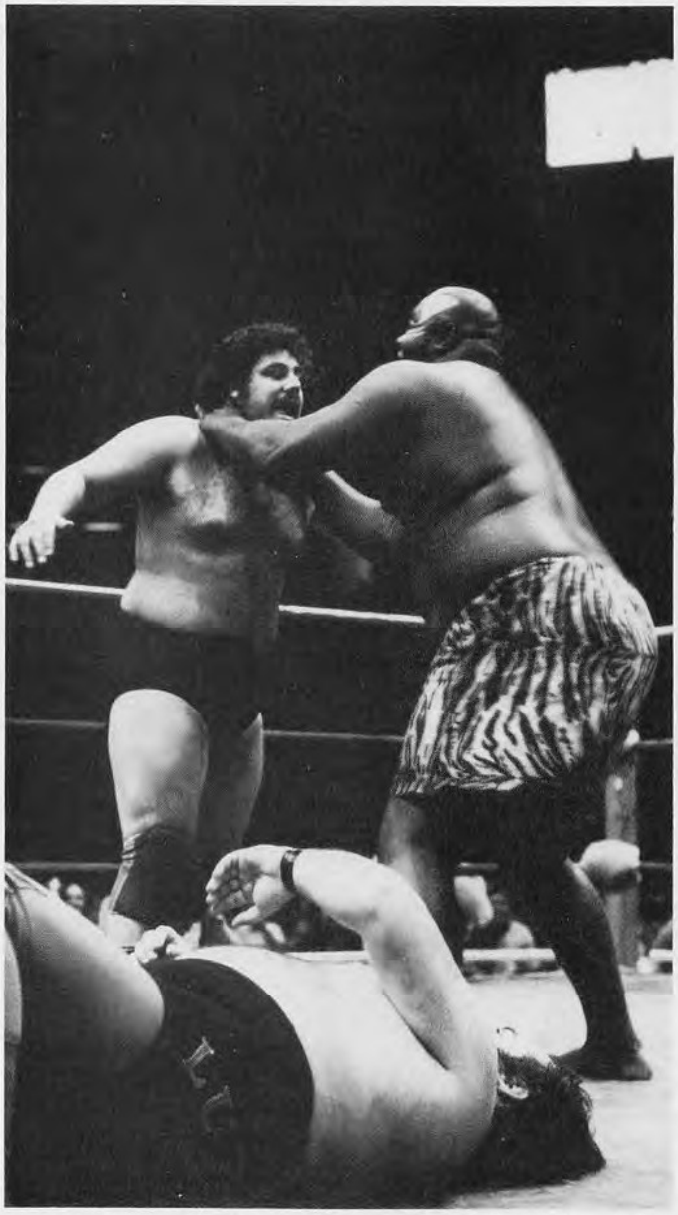
Kamala lets out an ear-piercing war cry as he kneads the head of a floored opponent.

make Kamala feel at home. Vegetation covered almost every area of the room.

My first inquiry to Friday was whether there was any chance of getting in a word with the big man himself. I gathered from the whip that came down less than an inch from my fingers that this wasn't an issue to pursue. "Kamala does not speak to anyone in this country," Friday screamed at an almost hysterical pitch. I threw caution to the wind and pressed for details concerning Kamala's reticence. Friday went for the whip again, but relinquished it on the way down and leaned forward in a conspiratorial tone.

"Contrary to what you or the people in the stands might think, Kamala is no dummy! Far from it, my friend. Freshman year he had the best grades ever at Uganda University. As a matter of fact, he originally came to the United States as a transfer student to your Yale University. His studies did not prove challenging enough, however, and one evening after getting a perfect grade on his Physics final, and pinning the entire varsity wrestling team, he decided it was time to move on."

I cast a skeptical look Friday's way. If Kamala was as intelligent as this would lead one to believe, why was there no indication of such superior intellect in the ring? Friday was quick to answer; "Ha! That just proves it! How many legitimate wrestling holds does Kamala use in a match? One, maybe two at the most. The referees let him get away with murder and mayhem! This is because unlike even the most vicious of rulebreakers, they feel they have no chance of communicating their desires to Kamala. We were forced to exit from the WWF when fear turned to paranoia. That big blonde surfer boy who claims to be champion refused to sign a contract to wrestle the Ugandan Giant! And Vince McMahon and company let him get away with it because they couldn't pic-



Kamala's enormous size makes regular singles competition unfulfilling for him. Here the Ugandan Giant wrestles in a special handicap match against two opponents. As one recuperates on the mat-floor (foreground), Kamala applies a deadly chokehold to the other (left), and lifts him off his feet with it (right).

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If you don't think so, just watch what turns women's heads on the beach. They get turned on by well-built guys. They're the ones with the prettiest girls. It's a rare fellow who doesn't want to look good in his clothes and is happy with a skinny frame, who has not envied men who weighed a little more, had a better appetite and generally displayed a physical fitness that spoke of health and well-being. True, while doctors and nutrition specialists warn against being fat, very little is said about the equal or greater evils of being underweight. So there's more to it than cosmetic aspects. Skinny is not only unattractive. It is also unhealthful. Gaining weight could mean gaining health for you.

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Skinny men are not great lovers. That's a known fact. Add a few pounds and you'll be amazed how it will improve your love-life. Women know this and are conscious of the fact that skinny men can't go the distance. The race is to the strong, the saying goes. And the fellow who is handsomest doesn't look like a stand-in for the family skeletin. Many a man found that gaining a few more pounds has helped him overcome chronic illness, major or minor. Many a doctor has prescribed gaining weight. But so little is publicized about skinny men. The great amount of publicity given to coronary problems has brought the bulk of weight attention to those men who weigh too much. Men who weigh too little never really get equal time. But their problem is no less serious.

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GINGTHEBELLY on Archive.org

Kamala's tribal war paint and vicious ring tactics have led referees and fans to believe that the Ugandan Giant is an uneducated monster. His trainer and companion, "Friday" (right foregound), however, has insinuated to MAIN EVENT that Kamala may not be so stupid afterall.

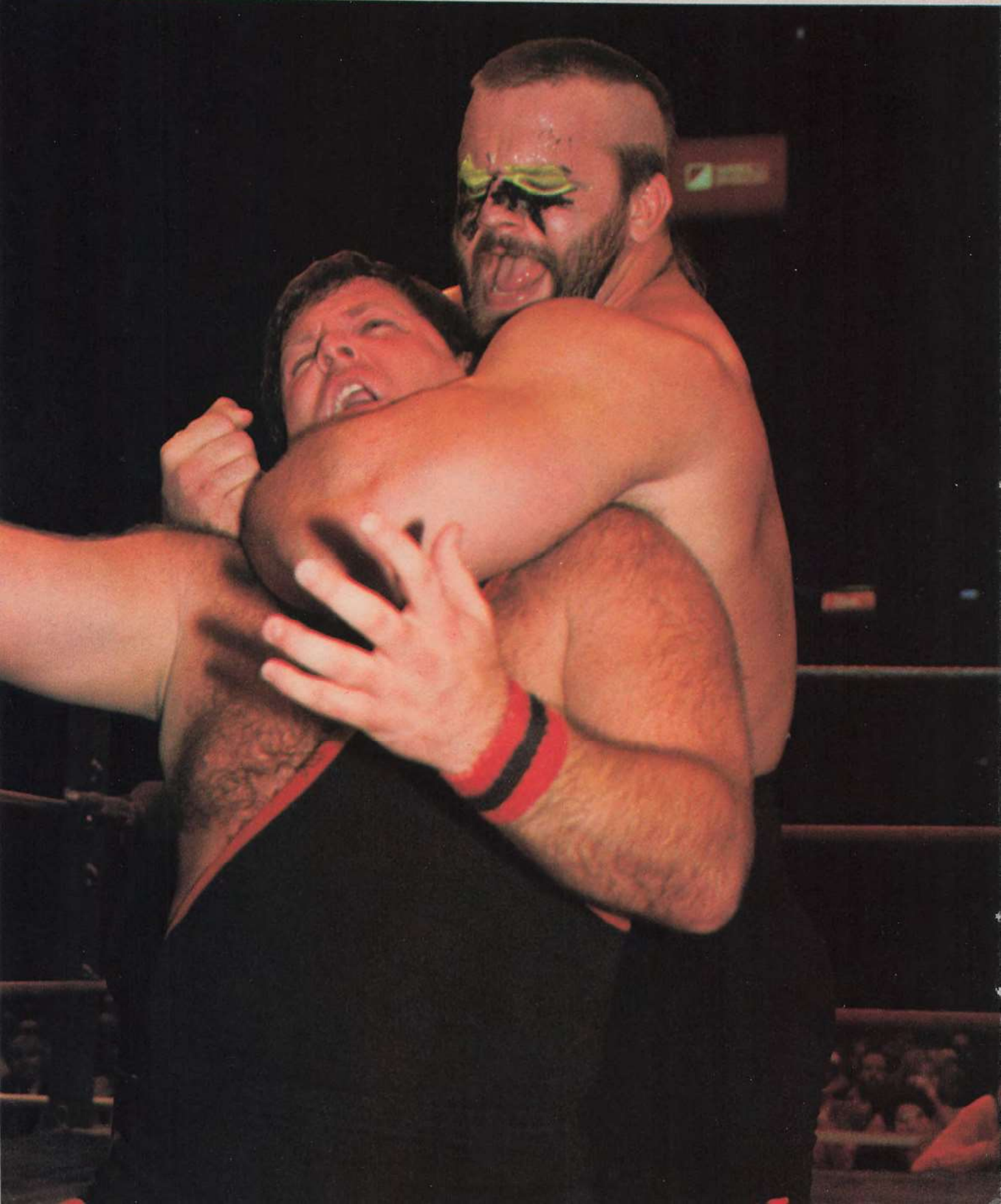
ture Kamala on their banquet circuit eating live chickens and pounding his stomach for more!"

I wanted to ask more about Kamala's odd diet and attractive and unique body paint, but Friday had suddenly moved to another corner of the room. There, from amidst tropical surroundings, I suddenly heard the theme from *Daktari* burst forth from a large television speaker. Rather than disturb Friday in his blissful repose, I took this as my cue to exit.

As I rode the limo back to the relative calm of New Jersey, I thought a great deal about the knowledge Friday had just imparted on me, and it all made a shocking amount of sense. After all, I had watched with amazement as Kamala almost tore Andre the Giant limb from limb during his WWF stay, perhaps the only opposition capable of even attempting to compete with the Ugandan Giant. No wonder Andre remarked, "I couldn't understand a thing he said, but them crazy feet almost stomped me dead." Indeed, Kamala's incredible combination of cunning and savagery is there anyone in the sport capable of stopping him? □

Color photo by Al Rivera

STAR WARS '85!



AN INCREDIBLE NIGHT OF CHAMPIONS IN NEW JERSEY'S MEADOWLANDS

Last month "Pro Wrestling USA" brought what might be the greatest wrestling card ever to New Jersey's Meadowlands Arena. Featuring no less than four title matches and an amazing tag-team "Battle Royale," this was a night wrestling fans will never forget.

by George Napolitano

Over 19,000 screaming wrestling enthusiasts jammed the Meadowlands Arena in New Jersey last month to witness one of the greatest nights of wrestling action ever held in the New York metropolitan area. The big event was labeled "Star Wars '85," and judging by the extraordinary amount of wrestling talent on hand, it was indeed a "star" studded extravanganza.

"Star wars '85" featured two heavyweight title bouts, as well as a twelve tag-team, $100,000 "Battle Royale." Besides this, the king of Rock -n- Rasslin', Sgt. Slaughter, was on hand to perform his new hit, the "Cobra Clutch." WKTU'S Freddie Colon introduced the Sarge, and the moment Slaughter arrived in view everyone stood at attention and cheered long and loud for the "All American Hero."

Once the crowd settled down it was time for the matches to begin. In the opening bout, U.S. Tag-Team Champions Jay and Mark Youngblood teamed with "The Boogie Woogie Man" Jimmy Valiant to take on former AWA champion Nick Bockwinkel, former NWA champion Dory Funk Jr., and the current Americas Champion, Larry Zbyszko. The bout was full of non-stop action and after fifteen minutes of all-out war the match was finally declared a draw.

Next came Kamala the Ugandan Giant, followed by his ever present advisor, Friday, Kamala easily overpowered not one, but two opponents in less than four minutes!

In the third bout, former WWF champion Bob Backlund pinned the great British Champion Billy Robinson in a classic wrestling confrontation.

The fourth bout was a tag-team match pitting the High Flyers, Greg Gagne and Jim Brunzell, against the Masked Superstar and Mr. Saito. This bout was easily one of the wildest on the card. The High Flyers were in command for most of the battle until the villainous Mr. Saito and the

NWA World's Heavyweight Champion Ric Flair put his title on the line, in a classic wrestling match with seven-time NWA titleholder Harley Race.

Color photo by George Napolitano.

Photos by Al Rivera and George Napolitano.

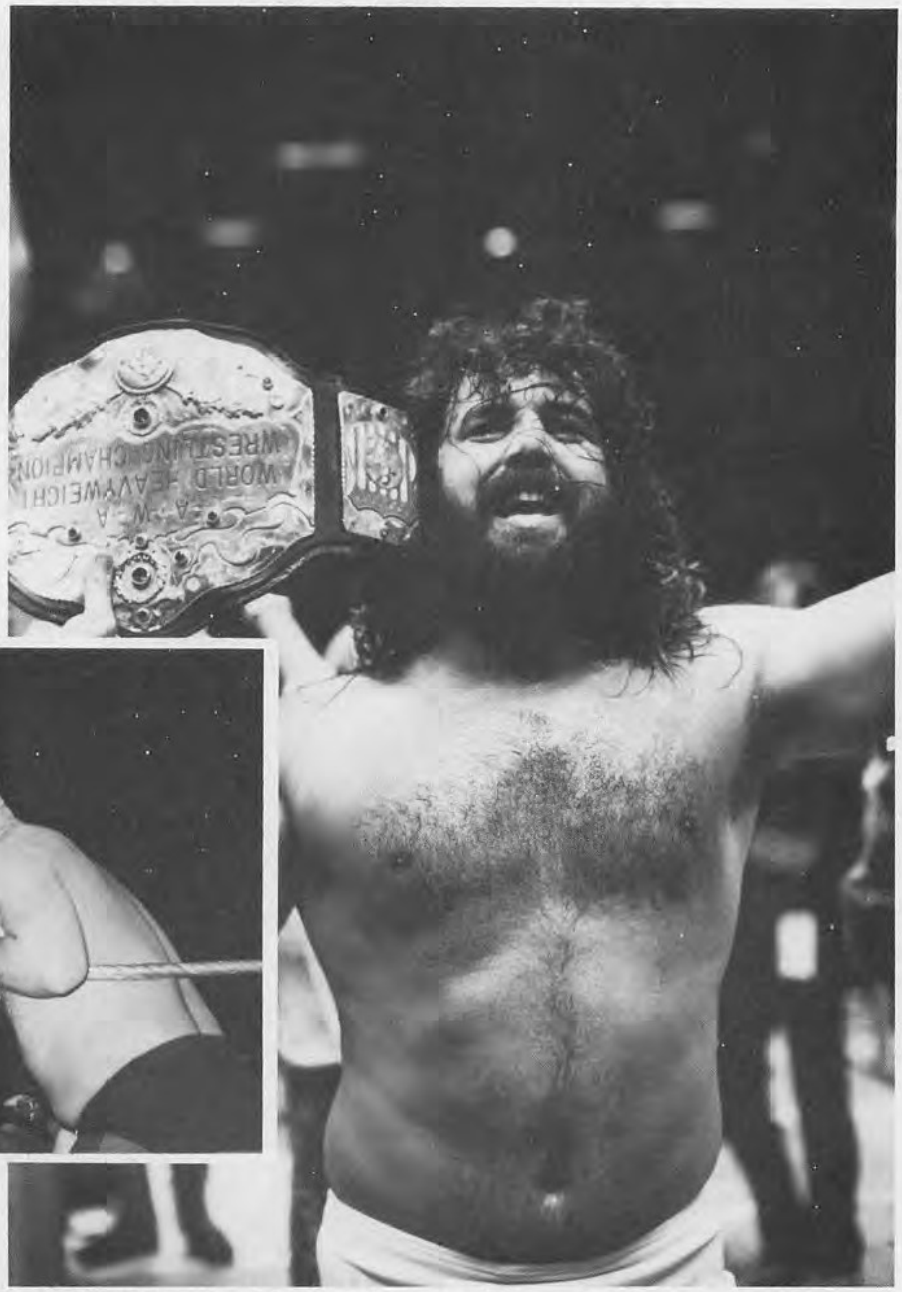
Masked Superstar began to use illegal tactics on the fan favorites. After close to fifteen minutes of fast and furious fighting the match got out of hand. The referee then had no recourse but to disqualify both teams.

The fifth bout was also a tag-team affair, and in this one Ivan and Nikita Koloff, accompanied by their comrade Krusher Khruschev, battled Steve Keirn and Jimmy Valiant. Hearing the crowd it was obvious who the fans favorites were. The Koloffs tried to overpower Valiant and Keirn in the early going, but the popular duo quickly managed to bounce back and turn the tables on the Russians. After ten miutes of fighting it appeared that the Koloffs were headed to certain defeat. But never underestimate the persevering Russians. As Nikita Koloff battled Steve Keirn on the outside of the ring, Krusher Khruschev added his two cents by jumping off the top rope onto the back of Jimmy Valiant. Khruschev immediately placed an unconscious Ivan on top of Valiant and signaled for the referee who administered the count and awarded the bout to the Koloffs.

After a short intermission "Gorgeous" Jimmy Garvin and his beautiful valet Precious challenged Rick Martel for the AWA World's Heavyweight title. The animosity between Garvin and Martel has been brewing for months. During a television match from the Las Vegas Showboat, millions had seen Garvin pin Martel after using a foreign object that Precious had given to him. Garvin was ever declared the new world's champion but when the referee discovered that Garvin had used a foreign object he reversed his decision and awarded the bout to Martel. Garvin was beside himself! Since this bout the Gorgeous one has been chasing Martel all over the country. Their battle in the Meadowlands was another classic. Precious, using her distraction tactics,

In one of several top preliminary matches the "People's Champion" Bob Backlund grapples with British great Billy Robinson.

One of the many highlights of "Star Wars '85" was the incredible Tag-Team Battle Royale, which pitted such bitter rivals as Road Warrior Hawk and Baron Von Rashke against each other in a struggle for $100,000 in prize money.



In the AWA Championship match "Gorgeous" Jimmy Garvin was declared the winner by virtue of disqualification, but does not get to keep the belt which still belongs to Rick Martel.

Road Warrior Hawk comes sailing off the ropes with a fist for Jerry "the King" Lawler as Animal holds him in place.

constantly interfered on her man's behalf. This angered Martel who took out his revenge on Garvin. The two men battled back and forth with first Garvin and then Martel in command. Finally, in a fit of rage the champ hurled Garvin straight over the top rope. The bell immediately sounded and Garvin was declared the winner by virtue of disqualification. This did not end the war, however, as the arch enemies continued to pound each other all the way to the dressing room.

Next came the awesome Road Warriors, led by their manager Precious Paul Ellering. When the Warriors appeared in view it was hard to tell they were "bad guys", as they received a loud ovation from the throngs in attendance. Their opponents were Jerry "the King" Lawler and Baron Von Rashke. Lawler and Von Rashke desperately tried to beat the Warriors but no matter what they did the awesome power of the Warriors was just too much for them to overcome.
come.

The eighth bout was for the NWA World's Heavyweight Title. champion Ric Flair put his belt on the line against seven-time champion Harley Race. The match started slow with Race trying to wear down Flair with his wrestling skills. After close to fifteen minutes of battling, the bout became very, very rough. Race managed to open up a cut above Flair's right eye, but this only seemed to bring out the best in the champion. Flair slugged Race repeatedly and tore into Race like a man possessed. But Race somehow managed to withstand whatever Flair dished out, until Flair's barrage eventually took its toll on Race and the champ pinned his opponent for the victory.

Even after eight all-star matches, "Star Wars '85" was still far from over. Now it was time for the $100,000 tag-team tournament. The teams entered in the battle royale included Jerry Lawler and Baron Von Rashke, Mark Mark and Jay Youngblood, Jimmy Valiant and Bob Backlund, the Masked Superstar and Mr. Saito, Steve Keirn and Jerry Oski, the High Flyers, Nick Bockwinkel and Dory Funk, Kamala and Billy Robinson, the Koloffs, Jimmy Garvin and Larry Zbyszko, Sgt. Slaughter and Crusher Blackwell, and the Road Warriors. The line-up read like a Who's Who of wrestling. As the teams were announced they took their places in the ring and awaited the start of the battle. But when it was Slaughter's turn to appear, the Sarge walked to the ring alone. Right behind him was Crusher Blackwell, but the Crusher was not dressed in his wrestling gear. It was announced that due to an injury Blackwell was unable to wrestler, but the Sarge was so up for the battle that he opted to go it alone.

Once the bell rang the battle was fierce. The whole affair lasted close to a half hour, and when the smoke had cleared the sensational "All American Hero" Sgt. Slaughter was $100,000 richer! *(A full report on this incredible battle can be found elsewhere in this issue. Ed.)*

All in all "Star Wars '85" was a resounding success. Everyone who came to the Meadowlands witnessed a card they won't soon forget. With matches like these, "Pro Wrestling USA" will definitely become a major force on the east coast mat circuit. □

Wrestler Of The Month

SERGEANT SLAUGHTER
One-Man Tag-Team Wonder!!

A bloody but victorious Sgt. Slaughter accepts the prestigious "Star Wars '85" trophy from AWA president Verne Gagne. Slaughter won the trophy, as well as a check for $100,000, by defeating 11 tag-teams in a Battle Royale all by himself!!

Photos by Al Rivera and George Napolitano.

At the "Star Wars '85" spectacular in the Meadowlands, Sgt. Slaughter was forced to enter the $100,000 tag-team "Battle Royale" alone after his partner Crusher Blackwell dropped out. Here's the incredible story of how the "All-American Hero" survived the competition, and pocketed the prize money himself!!

by George Napolitano

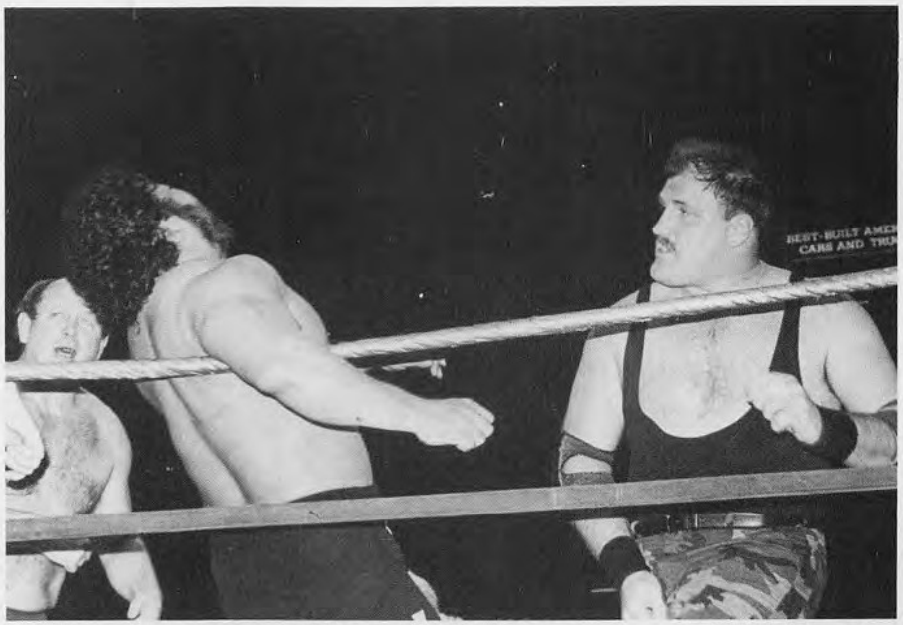
Sergeant Slaughter is a man with a mission. He wants to be recognized as the best wrestler in the sport, and he's now well on his way to accomplishing this goal. The Sarge recently took part in the big "Star Wars '85" extravaganza, with hopes of winning the beautiful tag-team trophy and the $100,000 purse. He knew that it wasn't going to be easy, but the Sarge was determined nonetheless.

Entries were received from many of the top teams in the sport. The tag-teams entered in the Star Wars tournament included: Jay and Mark Youngblood, Jerry Lawler and Baron Von Raschke, The Masked Superstar and Mr. Saito, Jimmy Valiant and Bob Backlund, the Koloffs, Steve Keirn and Jerry Oski, Jimmy Garvin and Larry Zbyszko, Greg Gagne and Jim Brunzell, Nick Bockwinkel and Dory Funk, Billy Robinson and Kamala, the Road Warriors, and Crusher Blackwell with Sgt. Slaughter.

Before the battle Slaughter and Blackwell sat huddled in a corner reviewing their pre-match strategy. But when the time came for the battle the Sarge was all alone. Crusher Blackwell accompanied Slaughter to the ring, but wasn't dressed in his ring gear.

The fans were startled. Finally an announcement was made that due to an injury Crusher Blackwell would be unable to wrestle. But Slaughter simply refused to let this spoil his chances of winning. He decided to go it alone.

The tag-team Battle Royale was fierce. It was every man for himself. Jerry Oski was the first man eliminated over the top rope. The team of Nick Bockwinkel and Dory Funk Jr. came next, followed by the Youngbloods. The Road Warriors and the Koloffs meanwhile were all over the ring, tossing out everyone in sight. Both, however, desperately wanted to eliminate Slaughter. The fourth team eliminated was Jimmy Valiant and Bob Backlund. Larry Zbyszko came sailing over the ropes next, squashing his and Jimmy Garvin's chance of winning the $100,000. Finally a combined effort by the High Flyers and the Sarge succeeded in putting an end to the Russians "Star Wars" quest. The High Flyers and the Sarge also managed to eliminate the team of the Masked Superstar and Mr. Saito.



Sgt. Slaughter pounds on Mr. Saito from Japan during the early going in the Battle Royale.

The teams were now dwindling down to a precious few. Jerry "the King" Lawler and Baron Von Raschke were the eighth team eliminated, and as soon as they hit the floor the High Flyers came sailing over the top rope. Things were now looking bleak for Slaughter. The only teams remaining were the Road Warriors, Kamala and Billy Robinson, and the Sarge. In a surprise move Kamala began to attack the Road Warriors, but the Warriors ganged up on Kamala and tossed him

After eliminating both Road Warriors simultaneously, Sgt. Slaughter was left alone in the ring with the team of Kamala and Billy Robinson, who temporarily double-teamed the weary Sarge.

SLAUGHTER

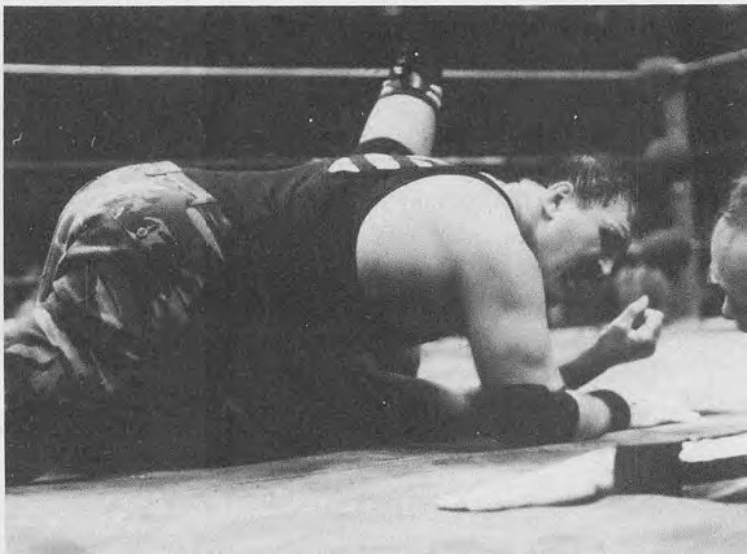
WRESTLING'S
MAIN EVENT
presents
SERGEANT SLAUGHTER

aside. The vicious duo now turned their attention toward Sgt. Slaughter. Grabbing Slaughter by the arms, the Road Warriors attempted to fling the "All American Hero" across the ring. Slaughter, however, held on tight and instead of sailing over the ropes the Sarge succeeded in eliminating both Animal and Hawk at the same time!

Now Sergeant Slaughter was alone with Kamala and Billy Robinson. The crowd was on its feet chanting for the Sarge. Kamala and Robinson, however, were all over the All-American. Finally Slaughter managed to toss

Billy Robinson aside, and went to work on Kamala. The two exchanged blows in the center of the ring and finally Slaughter tossed the big man across the ring. Kamala came rebounding back and when he did Slaughter lifted him up and dropped him over the ropes. Following Kamala's elimination the Sarge was able to pin Billy Robinson easily and succeeded in winning the "Star Wars '85" trophy and the check for $100,000 and for this achievement Wrestling's MAIN EVENT names Sgt. Slaughter our "Wrestler of the Month." □

A total of twelve of the world's toughest tag-teams were entered in the $100,000 Battle Royale, but when the dust had cleared Sgt. Slaughter was the only man left standing.



After tossing Kamala over the top rope, Sgt. Slaughter managed to pin Billy Robinson for the three-count and it was all over! Sgt. Slaughter had won $100,000 and the beautiful "Star Wars" trophy.

RICK RUDE:

Outrageous New Southern Champion

From the land of the Gagnes comes one of Florida's most offensive mat-stars. An abrasive young man shooting straight to the top!!

By JIM SCHUERMANN

Robinsdale, Minnesota. A puny little town nestled in the Land o'Lakes. Like other small, unassuming towns in history—Appomattox, Runnymede, Selma—it has acquired the status of an idealistic symbol. For Robinsdale is home of the Gagnes. And as such, it is a purified greenhouse of scientific wrestling. Robinsdale has, however, spawned a prodigal son, a scientific innocent turned bastard. Rick Rude.

He may be a scion of science, and he may spit in the face of this heritage, but you can't argue with success. Rick Rude invaded Florida and mowed over all competition, leaving Pistol Pez Whatley for the mulch. Rude defeated Whatley for the most prestigious title in Florida, the Southern Championship, and barely worked up a sweat in the process.

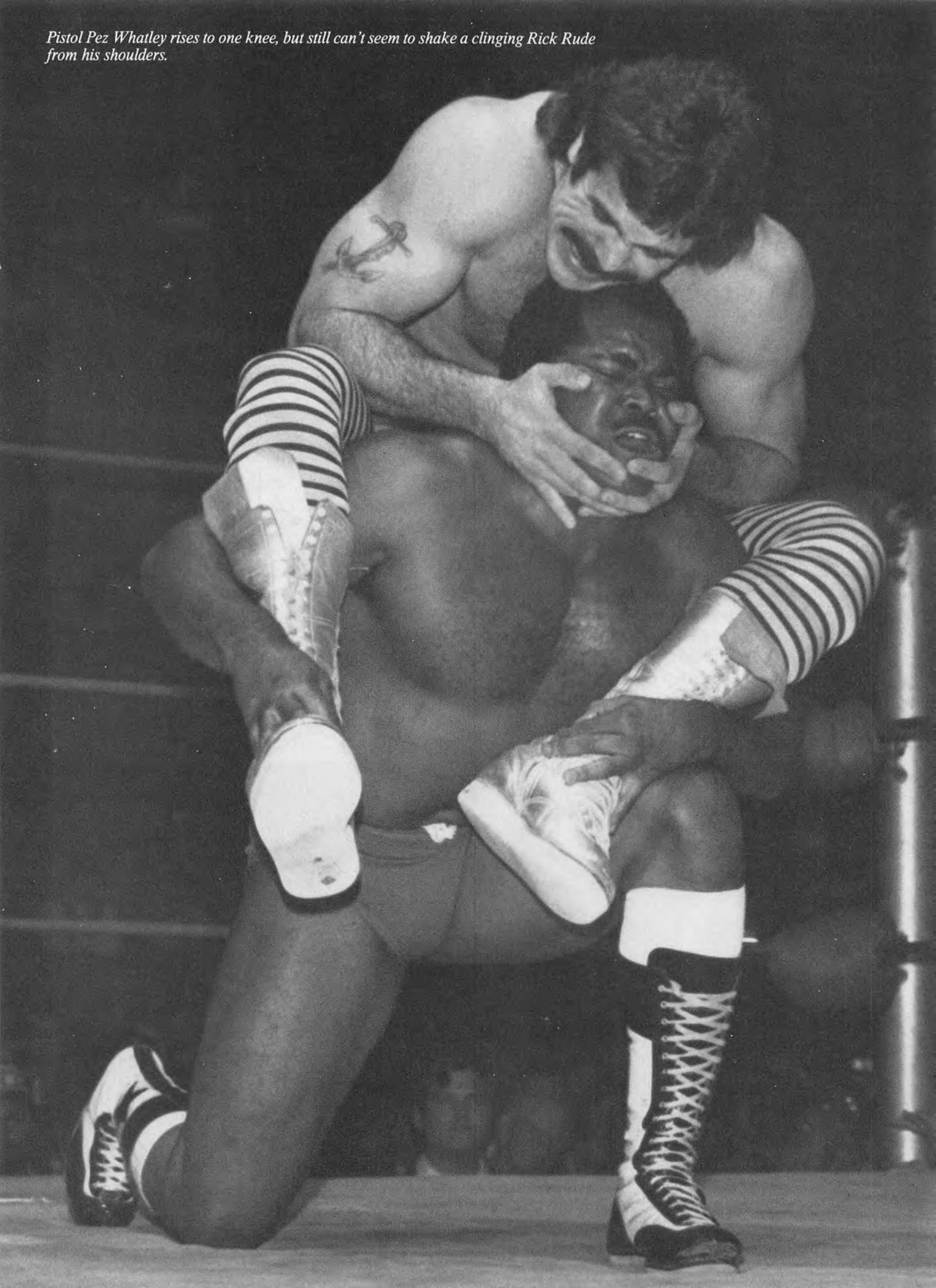
Florida fans are, predictably, aghast at the prospect of a brutal peacock like Rude wearing the coveted Southern belt. It is well apparent now that, despite rumblings to the contrary, Rick Rude has been wholly converted to the renegade ways of rule evasions. And when you look at his history, the change is quite understandable.

His first national exposure occurred on the WCW circuit in Georgia in 1983, where, as "Rick Rood," he appeared as one of Mr. Wrestling II's many ambiguous understudies. But he never got past preliminary status in Georgia, even though he was a more technically proficient wrestler than comparable fan favorites in the region, like Brett Sawyer-Wayne and Brad Armstrong. In Rood/Rude's case, the catharsis of his fledgling career occurred as a consequence of switching mentors. He left Mr. wrestling II for intensive training with the man who was to guide his career, Jesse "the Body" Ventura.

Ventura told me, "When he left arm wrestling [*Rude was National Champion before he switched to the mat—* Ed.], I told him that he principal of power and domination was crucial in both sports," says Ventura. "No matter how much excruciating pain you're in, you gotta maintain the dignity of a prophet and the style of a commando. I told him, you gotta take a lesson from Jesse the Body. I gave him the ten Commandments of Torture, and Num-

Photos by Bill Otten.

Rick Rude and his manager Percival Pringle the III have a tight hold on the Southern Heavyweight Belt, which the two will stoop to whatever measures are necessary to retain.



Pistol Pez Whatley rises to one knee, but still can't seem to shake a clinging Rick Rude from his shoulders.

ber One is you gotta look better than the other guy because that hurts him as much as a piledriver. Number Two is learning how to use the piledriver . . ."

Rick Rude went on to astounding success in the Mid-South. His first step was to hire a valet, Angel, whom he had been introduced to by Ventura at New York City's notorious swingers' club, Plato's Retreat. His technical arsenal was overwhelming in itself, but the adoption of a pretty boy pose made it more successful. He proved that the old Gorgeous George charade really works; the pretty boy posture wins matches. Jerry Lawler, a bitter rival of Rude's in the Mid-South, averred; "I took a helluva lotta lumps from that guy before I could take him seriously. The satin pants, bimbo valet, and sissy boy moustache—I though he'd be a pushover. I should have known better!" The price of wisdom is repeated corkscrew neckbreakers, Jerry.

And Rude is still fooling people in Florida, it seems. "I'd rather see Kevin Sullivan come back here than watch that faggot strut around the ring," sayeth a front-row denizen at the Tampa Sportatorium. "Yeah, I could mess with Fallen Angel—right down to the canvas!" chimes in another fan. Alas, the Satanic Age in Florida is over, and the Rude Boy has arrived. With a rude new manager to boot, the disreputable heir to a snack food fortune, Percy Pringle. "I knew I could make more money on a stable of champions than on monthly withdrawals from my trust fund," Percy admitted, "and I scarfed up Ricky's contract as soon as I heard he left (Jimmy) Hart."

"What made it easier," Pringle went on, "is that we destroyed the most incompetent champion in North America, the latter-day Bobo Brazil, Mr. Whatley!'

"HAW HAW HAW!!!" It was Rick Rude chortling in the back of the dressing room, adjusting his candy cane striped trunks. "Bring on another head butt specialist! I'll break his scrawny little neck too!" Rick Rude was on top of the world, and he vigorously rubbed the talcum powder into his chest. For the first time in his life, he is in the NWA Top Ten, and guess who his target is now. □

Rick Rude could make a tough cowboy, which he demonstrates by riding a tormented Pez Whatley around the ring rodeo-style.

With Whatley lying prone on the mat-floor, Rude lowers a devastating series of chops to his upper chest and throat regions.

Whenever things start going against him in the ring, Rick Rude never hesitates to use illegal tactics, such as blinding Whatley with talcum powder as shown above, in order to avoid losing his prized championship.

Color photo by Bill Otten.

HULKAMANIA

WILD WAR FARE IN THE WWF!

Hogan and Piper Clash in the Garden

Mr. T teams up with Hulk Hogan and the forces of rock-n-roll to battle "Rowdy" Roddy Piper's renegades. "The War to Settle the Score" is still going strong, and the battle zone is New York's own Madison Square Garden!

By JEREMY TEPPER

There's only one thing WWF Champion Hulk Hogan and "Rowdy" Roddy Piper seem to be able to agree on lately, and that is completely annihilating one another.

For Piper, the reasons are clear enough. If he could rid the WWF of the big blond bombshell, he could claim the cherished championship belt for himself and rule the league in what would amount to a "reign of terror."

But for Hogan, the incentive is slightly less tangible. Hulk Hogan is after the "Rowdy One" for one reason only, and that is revenge.

Not merely revenge for what Piper's done to Hogan, since they haven't met enough times to have caused any serious damage to the Hulkster. but revenge for everything Piper's done to terrorize the World Wrestling Federation since arriving there last year.

That includes all the wrestlers Piper has insulted in "Piper's Pit." That includes the broken neck suffered by Jimmy Snuka in Madison Square Garden, and the resulting conflict with the Tonga Kid. That includes the firey feuds with Andre the Giant and the Junkyard Dog, both of whom were humbled by the "Legend Destroyer." And most recently, that includes the one thing which has Hulk Hogan

Ringside security forces are put to work as they try to contain Mr. T and Hogan while Piper, Orndorff, and "Ace" make their getaway. Next month's tag-team match between these bitter rivals is sure to be an equally wild spectacle.

Hulk Hogan has been wound up for this confrontation for a long time, and couldn't wait to begin pounding on Piper in revenge for his unpopular actions. Here the champ loads up a devastating shot to Piper's head (left), which sends the challenger tumbling to the mat-floor (right).

about ready to boil over with rage; Piper's disruption of Cyndi Lauper's award presentation in Madison Square Garden.

If you remember in the last issue of MAIN EVENT we featured pictures of Piper smashing a framed record over Captain Lou Albano's head. It seems Piper was disgusted with the Captain's change of face since making up with Lauper, and demonstrated real rulebreaking when he kicked the popular rock queen across the ring and Powerslammed her manager Dave Wolff.

This incident stirred up incredible controversy, not only in the wrestling world, but amongst the music industry as well. Virtually overnight, Roddy Piper went from being just another wrestling villain into a national media scapegoat. Newspapers and magazines across the country portrayed Piper as a rotten spoil-sport, and insisted that there was only one person capable of stopping him. With a pledge to defend Cyndi Lauper's honor, Hulk Hogan promised that he would put an end to Piper's dastardly deeds once and for all, even if it meant risking his championship belt!

When a special showdown was scheduled for Madison Square Garden, the entire arena sold out in just over an hour. But there was such a demand to see this climactic bout that the WWF made arrangements with MTV to broadcast the match nation-wide in an unprecedented cable spectacular. The event was billed as "The War to Settle the Score," with Hulk Hogan portrayed as the defender of rock-n-roll and Roddy Piper made out to be an evil man trying to stop the music. Dozens of celebrities in both the music and wrestling worlds were interviewed before match time, and all were split straight down the party lines. The rock musicians favored Hulk Hogan, while the wrestling rulebreakers supported the "Rowdy One."

Roddy Piper takes the advantage here with the use of his pet Sleeper Hold as the Hulkster tries to summon up his last bit of energy on reserve.

With typical dramatic zeal, Roddy Piper entered the ring wearing a "Hulk-a-mania" T-shirt and carrying an electric guitar, which he promptly smashed in a demonstration of what he intended to do to the Hulkster. Piper was accompanied, as always, by his bodyguard "Ace," who wouldn't be much help on this night since his arm was in a cast following a battle with Superfly Snuka earlier in the evening.

Then "Eye of the Tiger" was blasted over the house P.A. system and the champion came charging into the ring, escorted by Cyndi Lauper, Dave Wolff, and captain Lou Albano. Immediately the Hulkster pointed a finger at Piper, ripped his shirt off, and got the crowd primed for action.

And action they got. The two ring warriors began to toss each other around the Squared-Circle, and threw violent flurries of punches at one another's heads. A series of Face-Rakes followed, and soon Hogan was even chewing on Piper's forehead. Piper was dazed, but mustered the strength to jump on Hogan's back and apply his pacifying Sleeper Hold.

It looked like "lights out" for Hogan as the proud champion crumbled to his knees, with almost every ounce of life seemingly drained from his veins. But before the referee could award Piper the match via submission, the Hulkster raised his index finger and cocked it

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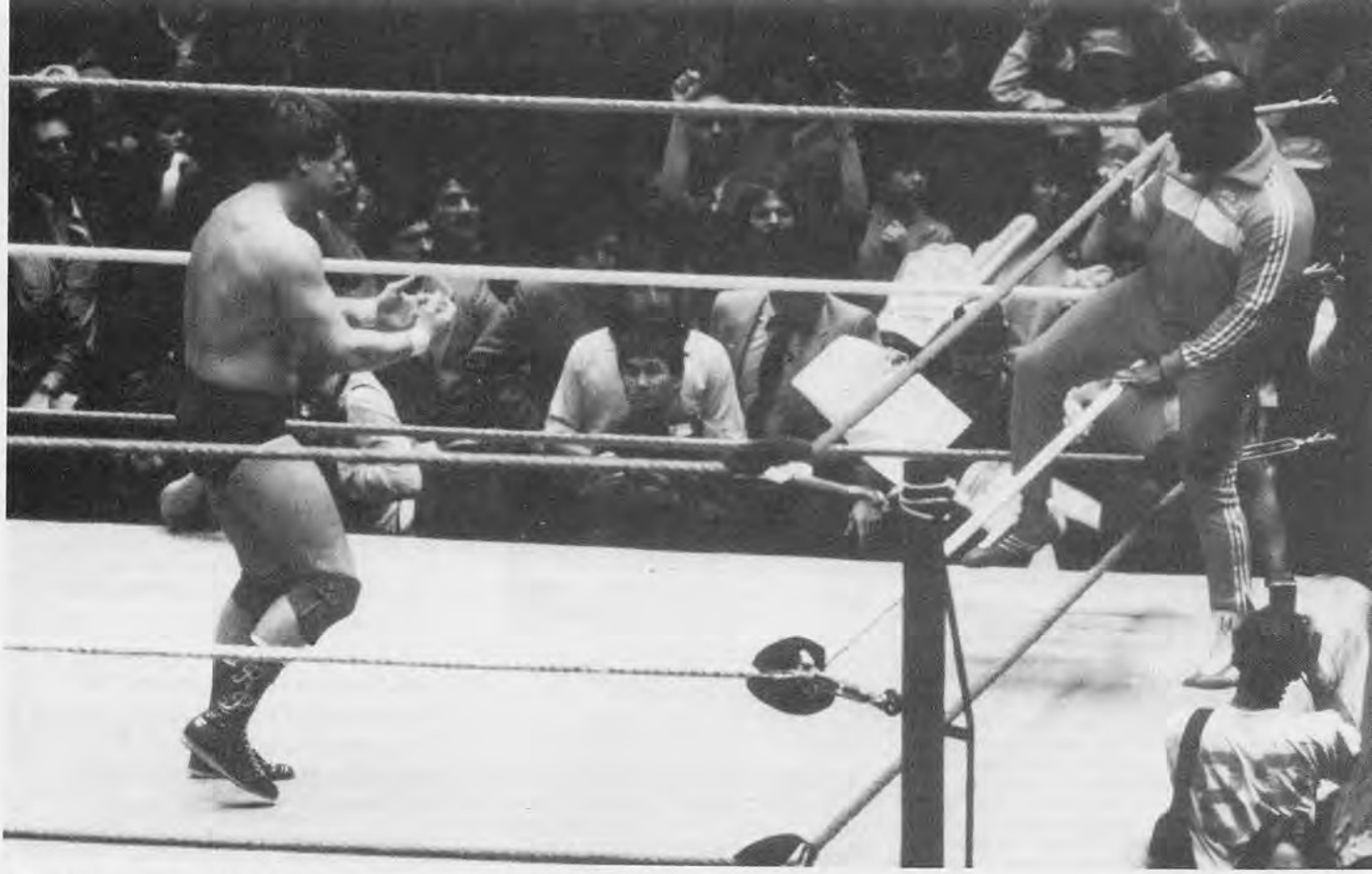

After taking care of Hulk Hogan, Piper motions for Mr. T to step into the ring (above) at which point he and Orndorff begin to stomp the overmatched TV star (right).

back and forth, signaling that the match was still far from over . . .

Hogan took over like a human dynamo, powering out of the Sleeper and slapping Piper from one end of the ring to the other, even pausing at one point to bash his bodyguard's cast into a nearby turnbuckle. This especially enraged Piper, who went on a warpath of his own and called in the reinforcements, in the form of "Mr. Wonderful," Paul Orndorff.

While Piper tied the Hulkster up in a paralyzing Leg-Lock, Orndorff climbed to the top of the turnbuckle and pounced upon the prone champion knee-first. Observing this savage double-teaming from ringside, Cyndi Lauper could stand no more and scaled the ring apron in an attempt to end the injustice. Seeing Lauper as open game, Orndorff left Piper alone to brutalize the wounded Hulkster as he began to slowly approach Lauper in the far corner.

At this point, the match took on a shocking turn of events as none other than TV star Mr. T came running up to the ring to save the poor damsel in distress. Mr. T swiftly lowered Lauper to safety, and climbed up the ropes himself, warning Orndorff to stay away from his favorite singing star. Orndorff responded in kind by challenging Mr. T to step into the ring, to which T complied, only to be blindsided by Roddy Piper.

While Mr. T lay on the mat floor, both Piper and Orndorff stomped on him from head to toe. Meanwhile, Hogan was still down on the other side of the ring, as was the unconscious referee, who had been in Hogan's way when the huge champ fell down. Someone at ringside had the sense to ring the bell signaling a disqualification, and the security patrol jumped into the ring to protect Mr. T. In the wild melee that ensued, Piper and Orndorff decided to make their escape, and left Hulk Hogan and Mr. T in the ring begging for more.

With the involvement of Mr. T, the Hogan/Piper feud has taken on a whole new hue. Already the muscular actor who co-starred with the Hulkster in Rocky III has begged to team with Hogan in a rematch against the men who attacked him, and a tag-team match has been signed for Madison Square Garden at the end of March. This match will also be shown on closed circuit screens and promises to be one of the most memorable, and most watched, wrestling matches of all time. Former boxing champion Muhammad Ali has even been enlisted as a special guest referee to assure that the action doesn't get out of hand. As always, MAIN EVENT will be where the action is, and you can look forward to plenty of exciting photos and a full report in our next issue. □

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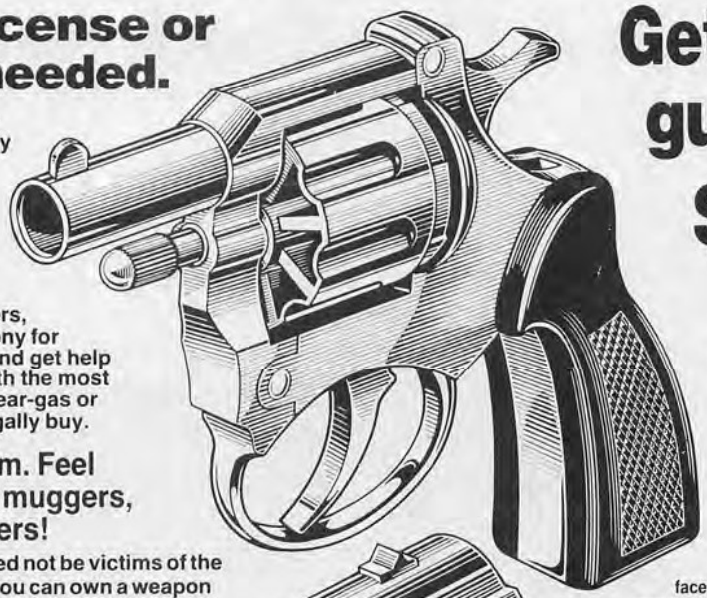

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OUT OF THE RING

JESSE BARR:

Florida State Champion With A One-Track Mind!

By JIM SCHUERMANN

What is it about a wrestler that inspires fear? Is it brute strength, the power to crush an opponent's life out of him? Is it ring savvy, the ability to counter any offense and concoct devious strategies? Or is it sheer insanity—unreasoning psychotic fury, epitomized by the vacant stares of men like George Steele and Abdullah the Butcher before they go on the rampage?

The answer is, invariably, all of the above. And when a man like Jesse Barr combines all three of these attributes into one fighting machine, it is something special indeed. It is the ability to utilize strength, intelligence, and bloodlust that makes Jesse Barr one of the most dangerous men in wrestling.

"Look around you, take a good look at this room," Jesse Barr demanded. I was comfortably situated in a contour lounge, the kind that really fits your back, and I gazed at the dozens of book-lined shelves in Jesse Barr's study. Suddenly Jesse Barr ripped a book out with such force that I nearly spilled the tequila sunrise his manservant had prepared for me. Gritting his teeth, he shoved a musty-smelling tome at me and opened it to the flyleaf.

"Here, *Gulliver's Travels* personally autographed by Jonathan Swift!!! Only three copies are known to exist in theWORLD!!!" before I could take a closer look, he hurled it furiously across the room, fracturing the already cracked binding. It was Gulliver's last submission.

"I don't need any more knowledge, I can afford to throw it all away!!!" Jesse Barr screamed. "I've read a thousand books a year since I was four years old. But all the wisdom I've accumulated has been directed towards one thing. WRESTLING!!! WRESTLING!!! WRESTLING!!! My postgraduate studies in psychology, anthropology, and especially criminology have been invaluable in the ring, WHICH IS THE ONLY PLACE IT COUNTS!!!" He gestured disdainfully towards his small library. "I don't need this any more. No author can teach me as much about wrestling and life as Dory Funk, Jr., anyway." Visibly calmer now, Jesse Barr suggested, "Let's go to the gym. I need to work on my clothesline."

In order to regain his cherished state title from Brian Blair, Jesse Barr had to eat, drink, and sleep only one thing —and that's WRESTLING!! Here's a rare look at what goes through the champion's mind as he prepares for each match.

The ride to the gym in Jesse Barr's vintage Shelby was complicated by typically oppressive Florida traffic. The cars may have been moving in slow motion, but Jesse Barr's mind wasn't.

"People ask me why I'm a rule breaker all the time. You know, I'm surprised you didn't—the old song and dance about why did you throw away your Greco-Roman heritage, you could wrestle clean scientifically, etc., etc. AD NAUSEUM!!! Well, everbody breaks the

Photos by Bill Otten.

In the locker room after his work-out in the gym, Jesse Barr prepares to slip into some semi-formal evening wear.

After dressing, Jesse makes his way to the nearest pay phone to make sure he can line up a date for the night.

rules in wrestling, you have to if you don't want to be a prelim bum. I've lost track of how many times B. Brian Blair has kicked me in the crotch. But he gets cheered for it, because hypocrites get the applause in life. The same idiots who cheer on Blair voted for Wallace and Nixon and Reagan, and I could give you exact percentages because political science has influenced my wrestling too. And it just goes to show you that wrestling mirrors . . ."

We were interrupted by a chorus of obscenities and rude gestures from a decrepit Monte Carlo alongside of us. There were a half-dozen red-blooded American males inside, wrestling fans, taunting Jesse Barr at the top of their lungs. We couldn't go faster than 30 MPH because of the heavy traffic. Jesse Barr yelled back, "Pull over at the next exit! I want to talk to you!"

I was worried about a potential rumble. After all, Roddy Piper was stabbed by an irate fan, and there were six of them vs. one tough guy wrestler and one pencil-neck geek with a tape recorder. What ensued was an example of Jesse Barr's thinksmanship outside the squared circle. Instead of flying off the handle, he offered to give the young thugs wrestling demonstrations. He promptly delivered bone-crushing Suplexes to each member of the unruly group, under the pretext of "teaching them to fall right." They all gave up before learning how, and hobbled back to their cheap car with a fresh appreciation of the mat wars.

Now that Jesse Barr has regained the Florida State title from arch-nemesis Blair, he looms as a bigger threat than ever before. Clearly, his ring sophistication belies his years. Most importantly, he eats, sleeps, and drinks WRESTLING—whether he's wearing his tights or just relaxing in blue jeans and a T-shirt with his face on it. □

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MATCH OF THE MONTH

St. Paul Civic Center, St. Paul, Minnesota

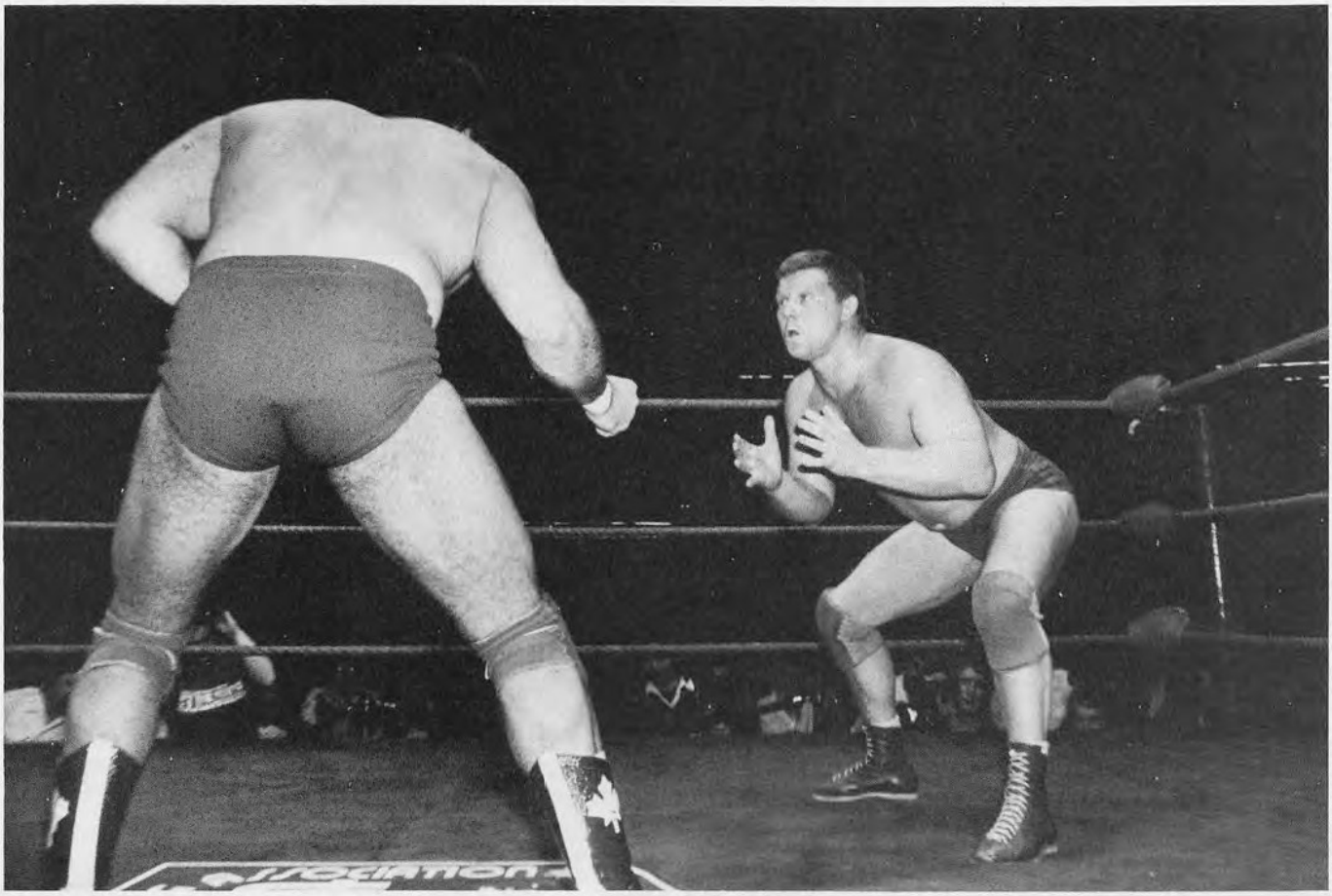
CHAMPIONSHIP SHOWDOWN!

AWA King Rick Martel vs. "People's Champ" Bob Backlund

Two of wrestling's brightest stars battle it out to decide who is the top scientific wrestler in the world today. After a half hour of bruising battle, both men are still on top!!

By MARVIN GORDON

It was the kind of match that wrestling fans the world over deserve to see. The knowledgeable fans of the AWA-NWA connection witnessed it, and hope to be fortunate enough to see more like it in the near future. It was a "Classic Matchup," pitting AWA World Heavyweight Champion Rick Martel vs. former WWF World Heavyweight Champion Bob Backlund. Like the NWA kingpin Ric Flair, Martel is a "true champion," not one built on showbiz hype. Rick Martel's wrestling repertoire is as vast as anybody's in the sport. Martel's opponent on this night, Princeton, MN native Bob Backlund, is also a proven winner, and one of the best conditioned atheletes in the sport today.



Photos by Marvin Gordon.

Both Bob Backlund and AWA Champ Rick Martel crouch down in an effort to feel each other out before they lock up in battle.

Rick Martel grimaces as Backlund holds him down using a scientific Arm-Lock.

Backlund was the first to enter the ring, and appeared very calm and relaxed. Rick Martel, on the other hand, seemed to be a little on the nervous side. After the introductions and the referee's instructions, the match was underway. Both wrestlers were very cautious at the outset, there were exchanges and reversals of Hammerlocks and Headlocks, but neither man was able to take command of the other.

When two capable athletes like Bob Backlund and Rick Martel mix it up, the fans are in for a veritable scientific smorgasbord. As these pictures show, there was plenty of good clean action going on before Martel hoisted Backlund up for a rotating Airplane Spin (below) which caused both grapplers to fall over the top rope and be counted out.

After executing a powerful Shoulder-Block while coming off the ropes, Backlund was able to stun Martel and apply a painful Armbar while the champ was on the canvas. Backlund was able to maintain this hold for several minutes, wearing down Martel. The champ managed to maneuver out of the hold a couple of times, but Backlund was quick to reapply it.

Finally Rick Martel was able to break out of Backlund's Armbar and apply a hold of his own. With Backlund on the mat, Martel managed to slip his right forearm between Backlund's lift forearm and bicep. He then used his right leg to drape over the top of Backlund's forearm to apply additional pressure. Backlund was in excruciating pain! He was in such a bad position that it didn't appear he would be able to break the hold, and it seemed like only a matter of seconds before Backlund would have to say "uncle."

Suddenly, Backlund turned so that both wrestlers were facing the mat. Then he slowly made it to his knees and then his feet. With the strength of a bull, Backlund then dead-lifted Martel up and over his head and set him on one of the corner turnbuckles!

At this point both wrestlers were getting worn down, but the action began to pick up. After delivering several dropkicks and a Flying Body Press, Martel tried to pin Backlund but was unsuccessful. Backlund, on the other hand, was also unsuccessful in pinning Martel after delivering a crunching Back Body Drop and Suplex. In what appeared to be a last attempt at victory, a weary Martel put Backlund in an Airplane Spin at about the 25-minute mark. Turning round and round at a dizzying speed Martel began to stumble toward the ring ropes, and finally both he and Backlund fell over the ropes and out of the ring. Neither wrestler, both of whom were quite groggy, was able to make it back into the ring by the count of ten, and Rick Matel was able to retain the AWA Heavyweight Championship after the referee counted out both wrestlers. □

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THE MYSTERIOUS MISSING LINK:

Is He Man or Beast?

Florida's most exotic mat-star defies scientific queries as he ruthlessly devours all competition in the Sunshine State!

By JESSE VON GARON

For literally centuries, the greatest scientific minds on our planet have sought after the original thread which binds the human race and the wild animal kingdom. But while biologists hole themselves up in their laboratories, consulting their data in a vain effort to make a breakthrough, a living example of this special breed stalks the Florida mat circuit with no regard for science whatsoever. And that man/beast is known as "The Missing Link."

With a humanoid physique and pure animal instincts, the Missing Link is somewhat of an enigma to the wrestling world. No-one really knows where this vicious grappler comes from. Some say he's a throwback to an aboriginal demon tribe of the Florida swamplands, let loose to wreak havoc on mere mortal mat stars, while others insist that he was once a world renowned wrestler who suffered severe head injuries and subsequent brain rot. Only one man really knows for sure, and that's the Link's trusty manager known as the "Bossman," Percival Pringle the III.

"It's none of your blooming business what the heck he is," insists the secretive Pringle as he tosses the Link his daily feast of raw alligator flesh and mashed banana. "He could be the Wizard of Oz for all I care, and it certainly makes no difference to you!! There's really only one thing you should know about my man the Missing Link, and that's when he gets in the ring he's unstoppable—and that's spelled D-E-V-A-S-T-A-T-I-N-G!!"

With that the Link, who's been chained to a wire mesh fence in back of Pringle's spectacular split-level ranch house, let out an ear-piercing roar which caused the coconuts to fall off a

Photos by Bill Otten.

Manager Percy Pringle claims that his man the Missing Link represents a "Back to Nature" movment among wrestlers. He applies this philosophy by training his charge in the out-of-doors and feeding him a steady diet of raw flesh and fruits and vegetables.

nearby tree. Although the Missing Link understands very little English, and speaks some ancient swamp dialect instead, he can tell when he's being talked about.

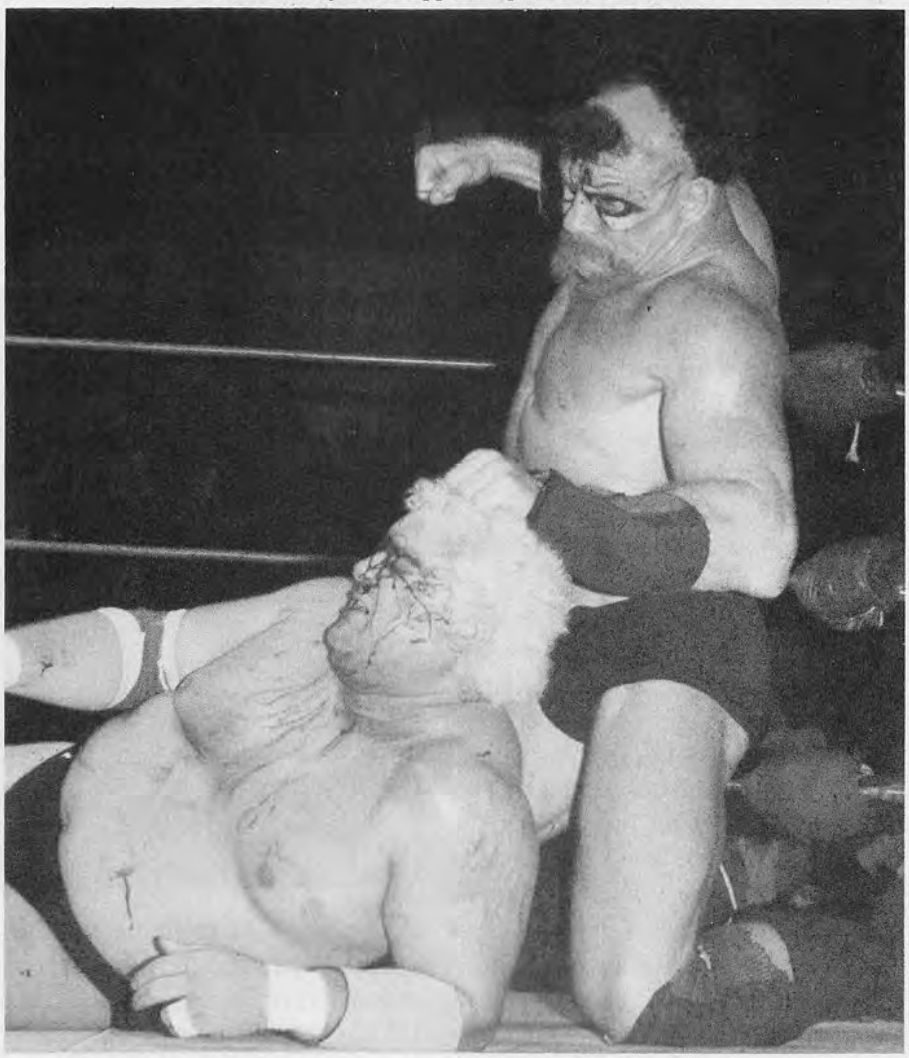
"It's really better if you don't know my man's true ancestry," adds the "Bossman." "Some things are best left unsaid, and we don't want the scientific community breathing down our necks, begging for lab tests. If they had their way, they'd probably put the Link in a zoo somewhere, and I don't think he'd like that very much!"

Judging by Mr. Link's cross-eyed sneer and subsequent growl, I'd assume Pringle's right. Scientists and their lot are not among the Missing Link's favorite people, and that goes doubly for scientific wrestlers. When the Missing Link enters the Squared Circle, any kind of reason is left behind and his mind focuses on one thing, and that's violence. Scientific tactics are useless against the Missing Link, whose complete disregard for the rulebook enables him to dominate his opponent like a predator and his prey. In fact, one of Pringle's most important roles at ringside, as insisted on by the State Athelectic Commission, is to prevent his charge from making a meal out of his rivals.

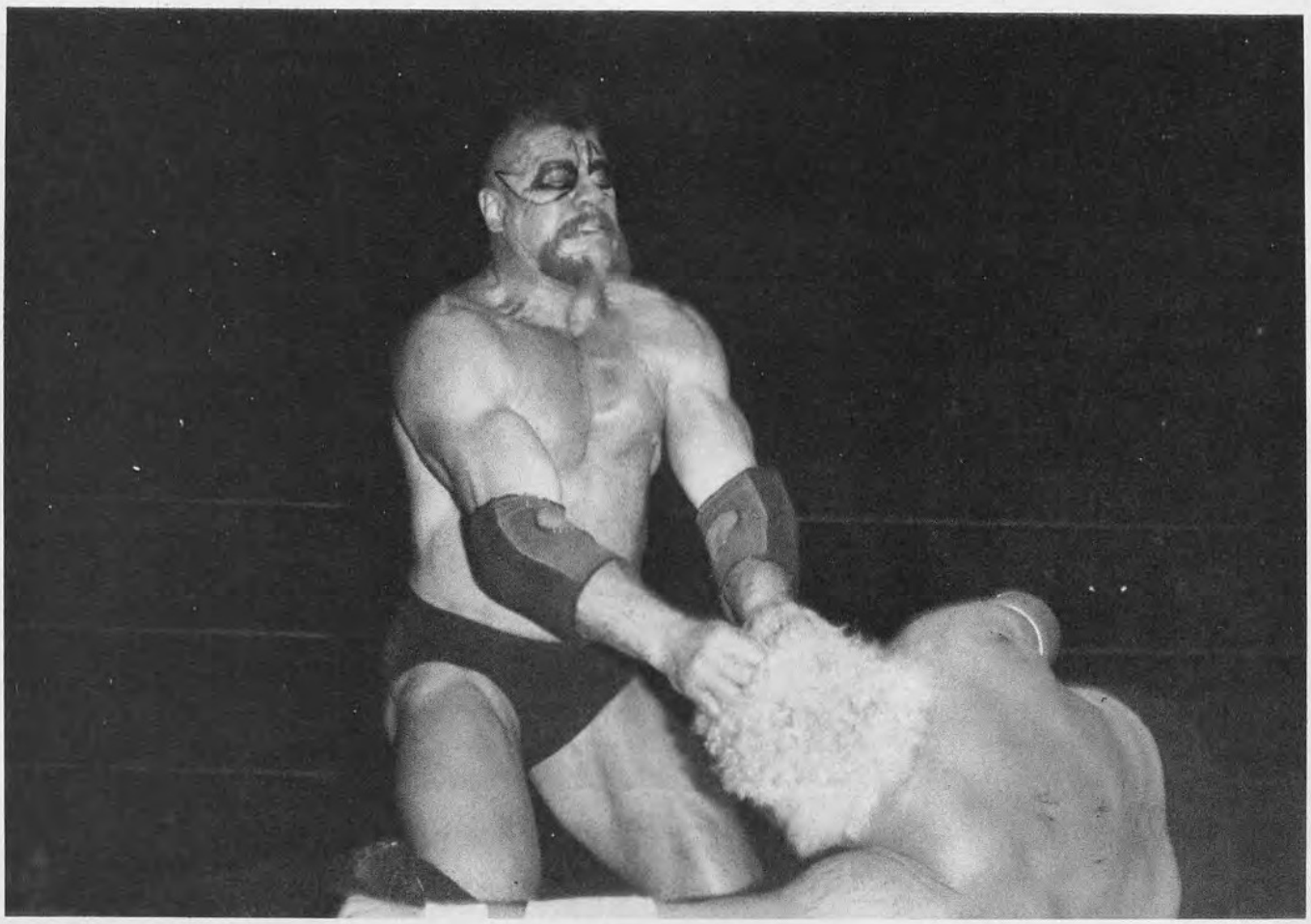
Both Percy Pringle and the referee advise the Missing Link to step down from the turnbuckle, as a Head-Thrust from this height would likely splatter Dusty Rhodes' brains around the ring.

Instead of devouring his opponents, the "Bossman" has trained the Link to use his head in the ring, and I don't

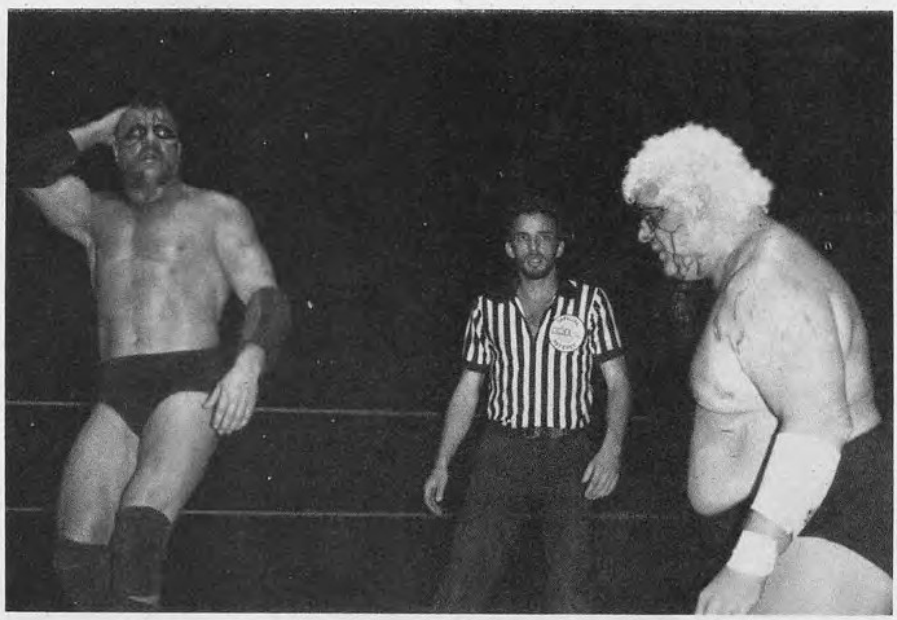
The Missing Link is momentarily distracted by a tasty looking fan, as he hesitates to make a meal out of the unappetizing "American Dream."



When at a loss of what tactics to use, the Missing Link merely resorts to what he does best; inflicting pain and permanent injury on his opponents. Here he blinds Dusty Rhodes in a mask of his own blood.



The Missing Link begins his slaughter of Dusty Rhodes by tugging his hair and ramming him with his rock-hard forehead (above), and then backs away from the bloody mess to contemplate devouring the ravaged Rhodes (below).



mean to think with! It's suspected that the Missing Link has one of the hardest skulls in the sport, and uses his lethal "Head-Thrust" to weaken any part of his opponents body. When the Missing Link leaps head-first off the top of a turnbuckle, it's never long before the match is over, and sometimes even another man's career.

Of course hurting people is all in a day's work for the Missing Link, but when he goes home after a match he likes to relax for hours with videotapes of "The Flintstones" and "The Munsters." While "The Bossman" tends to his other charges, the Link is cared for by the "Lady in Black," who also chauffeurs the celebrated mat star to his public appearances. It is this mysterious woman's unenviable job to make sure the explosive Link is able to unwind after each bout, and not cause any more destruction than is necessary to advance his career.

Whoever, or should I say whatever, the Missing Link might be, there's no doubt that he's currently one of the top contenders in Florida wrestling. Since Pringle stormed the area this year, he's already added Rick Rude's Southern Championship and the PYT Express' Tag-Team Title to his list of accomplishments, and he won't be satisfied until he's rounded up every belt in Florida. One of these, of course, is reserved for the Missing Link, although no one's quite sure the mysterious monstrosity would know how to wear it. □

Color photo by Bill Otten.

THE WILD AND CRAZY KIWI SHEEPHERDERS:

Creating Havoc in the Caribbean

Photos by George Napolitano.

Those nutty Sheepherders are back in Puerto Rico again, and the tiny island will never be the same! Not even the Invaders* and *Medics can stop the New Zealanders 'demolition derby!!

By GEORGE NAPOLITANO

In the past five years there hasn't been a more hated tag team than the wild and crazy New Zealand Sheepherders. Unlike the Road Warriors who have a huge fan following despite their bad boy image, membership in the Sheepherders fan club is limited to only three people: Luke Williams, Butch Miller, and Jonathan Boyd.

"We don't need anyone on our side," bellowed team spokesman Jonathan Boyd. "We do things strictly on our own. We don't want those slimey fans cheering for us, they're simply beneath us. We are the greatest team in the world and we hail from the greatest country on earth!"

The Sheepherders have caused quite a few problems since invading our shores. They've traveled all over the U.S. and every place they've wrestled the Sheepherders have left a trail of broken bones and bruished bodies.

"The list of people who we've crippled is endless," boasted Jonathan Boyd. "There's been Bill Dundee, Michael Hayes, Jimmy Golden, Ron

and Robert Fuller, and promoter Joe Blanchard."

"Don't forget Bobby Jaggers," added Butch Miller.

"How can I forget Bobby Jaggers? He thought he was cute but wound up paying in blood! I could go on and on but I hate to bore you with the gorey details."

For more than a year the Sheepherders were the scourge of the Southwest. While wrestling in San Antonio, Corpus Christi, and the rest of the panhandle, the crazy New Zealanders battled every top tag-team in the country. Their wars with the Rock-n-Roll Express, the Fabulous Ones, and the Road Warriors were simply awesome.

"You can say that we wrestled them all and never lost a battle," said Boyd. "We destroyed the pretty Fabs and those cute Rock-n-Rollers so bad that they needed plastic surgery to restore their looks. As for the Road Warriors, I will say that they're the best team we've ever faced but they too met defeat at the hands of the Sheepherders."

After ruling the Southwest, the Sheepherders traveled to the sunny Caribbean to continue their onslaught against the world. This is the second time that the New Zealanders have wrestled in the West Indies and immediately upon their arrival they picked up right where they left off. Actually this is a homecoming of sorts for the Sheepherders since it was in Puerto Rico that they plotted their eventual takeover of America.

"It's great to be back here in the sun," Butch Miller stated. "The last time we were here I had a bit of a problem and had to return home. That's when cousin Jonathan joined up with Luke. Now, however, we're all together and there isn't a bloody Yankee or Puerto Rican who's going to knock us off."

It didn't take long before the Sheepherders reestablished themselves in the Caribbean. Their first big triumph came when they defeated the Invaders for the WWC North American Tag-Team Championship. With this victory the Sheepherders incurred the wrath of everyone. And to make matters worse, the Sheepherders added injury to insult by breaking the hand of Invader I. After knocking out Invader III, Butch Miller whacked Invader I with a metal chair from behind. The Masked Man immediately hit the mat. As Butch Miller held the Invader, Luke Williams repeatedly clobbered him with their metal flagpole. Seeing this dastardly deed the fans gasped in horror. Finally Medic I ran into the ring. Was he coming to help the Sheepherders? No one knew for sure. As soon as he entered the ring, however, the Medic ran towards Luke Williams and knocked him to the ground.

Since breaking the hand of Invader I, the Sheepherders are the most hated tag-team in the Caribbean. Here Invader III is out for revenge as he grabs Luke Williams by the wrist, and just might break it as he whips the Sheepherder across the ring.

The fans simply couldn't believe their eyes! The Medic tore into the Sheepherders like a man possessed. Seeing this, the Sheepherders wisely vacated the ring before the Medic dished out a dose of their own medicine. This action by the Sheepherders made everyone aware of their vicious ways. "If anyone thinks they're man enough, let them step into the ring against us," challenged Butch Miller. "This is only the beginning. We will conquer this Island just as easily as we

The Invader holds Butch Miller against the turnbuckle as his new ally, the Medic, goes to work on the Sheepherder's stomach area.

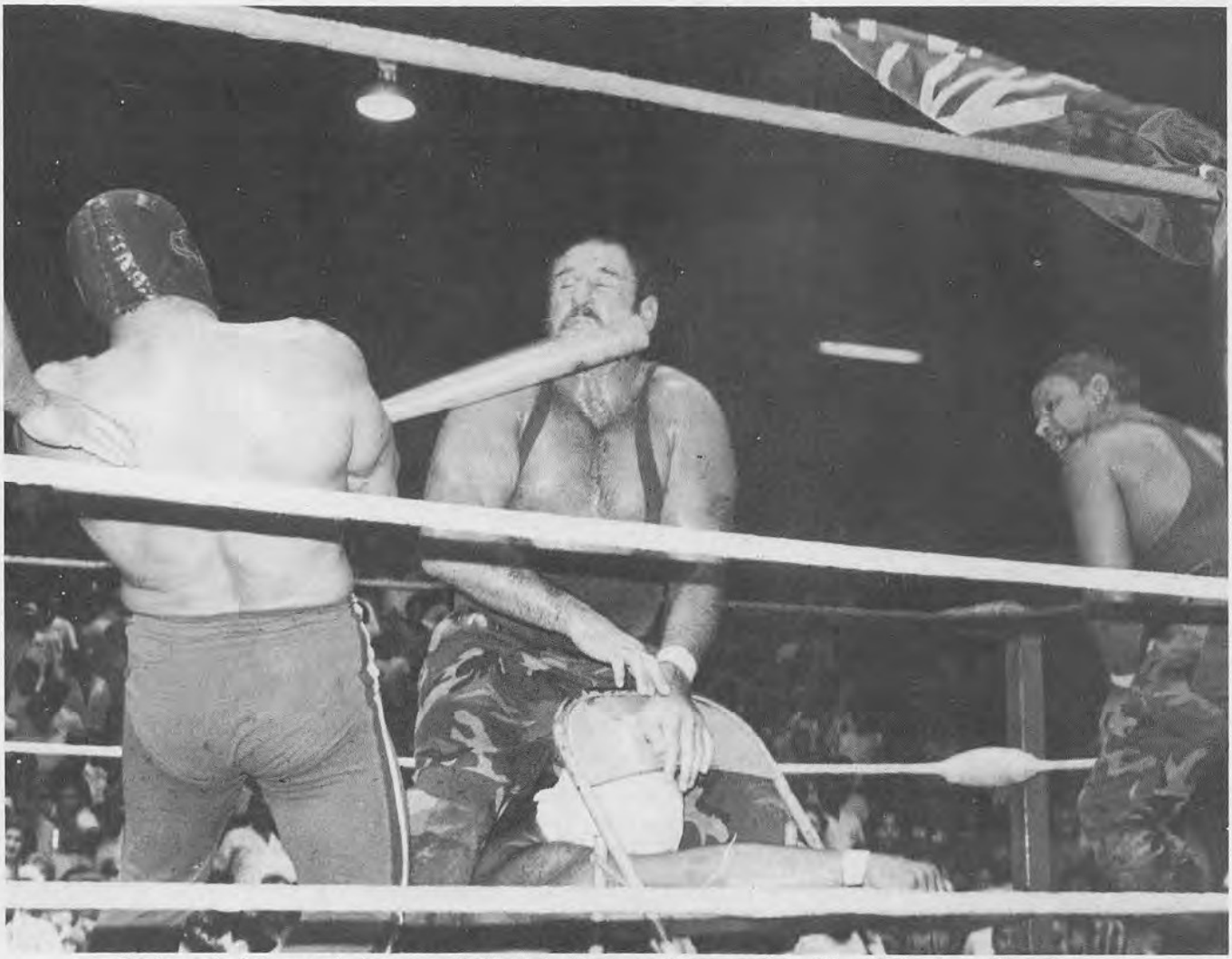
have conquered everywhere else around the globe."

Upon examination it was announced that the Invader had suffered a broken hand compliments of the Sheepherders. "The man got away easy," insists Jonathan Boyd. "If it weren't for that damn Medic we would have knocked the Invader out of the sport permanently. But his time will come. We'll take care of his partner, and that instigator the Medic."

The bout between the Sheepherders and Invader III with the Medic was wild. The crowd was on its feet from the moment that their heroes appeared on the scene. Everyone wanted to see the Medic and the Invader exact their revenge on the Sheepherders. The Medic and the Invader were the first in the ring. The Sheepherders arrived boldly waving their New Zealand flag. As soon as the Sheepherders hit the ringside area Puerto Rican flags began to spring up everywhere! The noise was deafening. Finally both teams made it into the ring, and it didn't take long before the action got completely out of control.

The Sheepherders first took care of the Invader and then went after the Medic. The newfound hero, however, was waiting for the Sheepherders onslaught and turned the tables on both of them. The Medic clobbered Luke Williams and then turned his attention towards Butch Miller. It appeared that the Medic was going to singlehandedly wipe out the New Zealand crazies, but unfortunately for the Masked man he turned his back on Luke Williams long enough for him to jump put of the ring and grab his trusty flag pole. Before anyone realized what had happened the Medic was flat on his back with the Sheepherders standing over him. Invader III tried to intervene but he too quickly fell under the Sheepherders onslaught. The New Zealanders were now in full control and punched, kicked, and stomped on the heroes without mercy. Seeing this, the crowd went berserk. Many even tried to rush the ring to get their hands on the Sheepherders, but the new Zealanders wisely ran for cover. The bout was officially declared "no contest," but it was obvious to all that the Sheepherders had won the war.

You can be sure that there will be many more episodes like this one while the Sheepherders are in the Caribbean. Everywhere they appear the Sheepherders cause the same violent reactions and it doesn't look like things will ever change. □



By the end of the match, the squared-Circle had become the scene of a wild no-holds- barred brawl involving a baseball bat, a steel chair, and of course the Sheepherder's trusty New Zealand flag.

OFFICIAL WRESTLING RATINGS

Ric Flair

National Wrestling Alliance (NWA)

World's Heavyweight Champion: RIC FLAIR—245 lbs.—Minneapolis, MN
World's Jr. Heavyweight Champion: DENNIS BROWN—220 lbs.—Honolulu, HA
National Champion: RONNIE GARVIN—235 lbs.—Montreal, Canada
United States Champion: WAHOO McDANIEL—265 lbs.—Midland, TX
Universal Champion: DORY FUNK, JR.—250 lbs.—Amarillo, TX
Tag-Team Champions: DUSTY RHODES and MANNY FERNANDEZ (combined) 570 lbs.

CONTENDERS
1. SGT. SLAUGHTER—300 lbs.—Parris Island, SC
2. KERRY VON ERICH—250 lbs.—Denton, TX
3. BRUISER BRODY—265 lbs.—San Antonio, TX
4. HARLEY RACE—263 lbs.—Kansas City, MO
5. BILLY HAYNES—245 lbs.—Portland, OR
6. COWBOY RON BASS—285 lbs.—Pampa, TX—Mid-Atlantic Champion
7. GINO HERNANDEZ—225 lbs.—Houston, TX—American Champion
8. RICK RUDE—225 lbs.—Robinsdale, MN—Southern Champion
9. JESSE BARR—240 lbs.—Portland, OR—Florida Champion
10. TULLY BLANCHARD—235 lbs.—San Antonio, TX—Television Champion

Rick Martel

American Wrestling Association (AWA)

Heavyweight Champion: RICK MARTEL—235 lbs.—Quebec City, Canada
Light-Heavyweight Champion: STEVE REGAL—220 lbs.—Ft. Lauderdale, FL
America's Champion: LARRY ZBYSZKO—240 lbs.—Pittsburgh, PA
Tag-Team Champions: ROAD WARRIORS (combined)—576 lbs.

CONTENDERS
1. JIMMY GARVIN—235 lbs.—Tampa, FL
2. MASKED SUPERSTAR—285 lbs.—Atlanta, GA
3. SGT. SLAUGHTER—300 lbs.—Parris Island, SC
4. BOB BACKLUND—240 lbs.—Princeton, MN
5. KING TONGA—235 lbs.—Island of Tonga
6. BARON VON RASHKE—265 lbs.—Berlin, Germany
7. GREG GAGNE—225 lbs.—Robinsdale, MN
8. JIM BRUNZELL—230 bls.—Minneapolis, MN
9. KENDO NAGASAKI—250 lbs.—Tokyo, Japan
10. NICK BOCKWINKEL—245 lbs.—Beverly Hills, CA

Hulk Hogan

World Wrestling Federation (WWF)

Heavyweight Champion: HULK HOGAN—299 lbs.—Venice Beach, CA
Intercontinental Champion: GREG VALENTINE—250 lbs.—Seattle, WA
Ladies Champion: LEI LANI KAI—145 lbs.—Honolulu, HA
Tag-Team Champions: BARRY WINDHAM and MIKE ROTUNDO (combined)—475 lbs.

CONTENDERS
1. RODDY PIPER—235 lbs.—Glasgow, Scotland
2. PAUL ORNDORFF—240 lbs.—Tampa, FL
3. JUNKYARD DOG—255 lbs.—Charlotte, NC
4. BIG JOHN STUDD—365 lbs.—Los Angeles, CA
5. MAGNIFICENT MURACO—260 lbs.—Sunset Beach, HA
6. RICKY STEAMBOAT—235 lbs.—Honolulu, HA
7. BRUTUS BEEFCAKE—250 lbs.—Parts Unknown
8. NIKOLAI VOLKOFF—320 lbs.—Siberia, U.S.S.R.
9. TITO SANTANA—235 lbs.—Tocula, Mexico
10. KING KONG BUNDY—440 lbs.—Atlantic City, NJ

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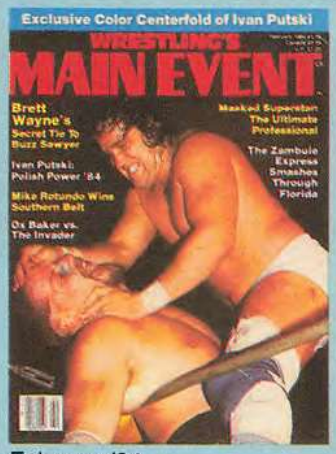

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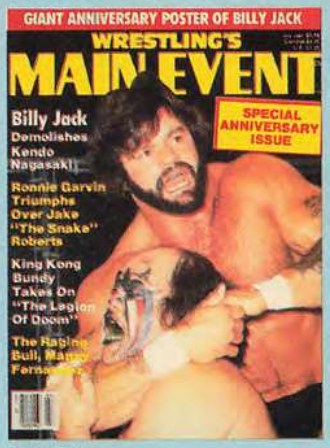

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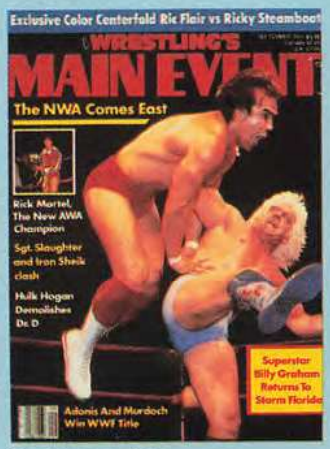

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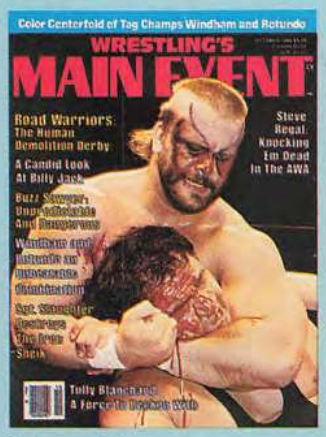

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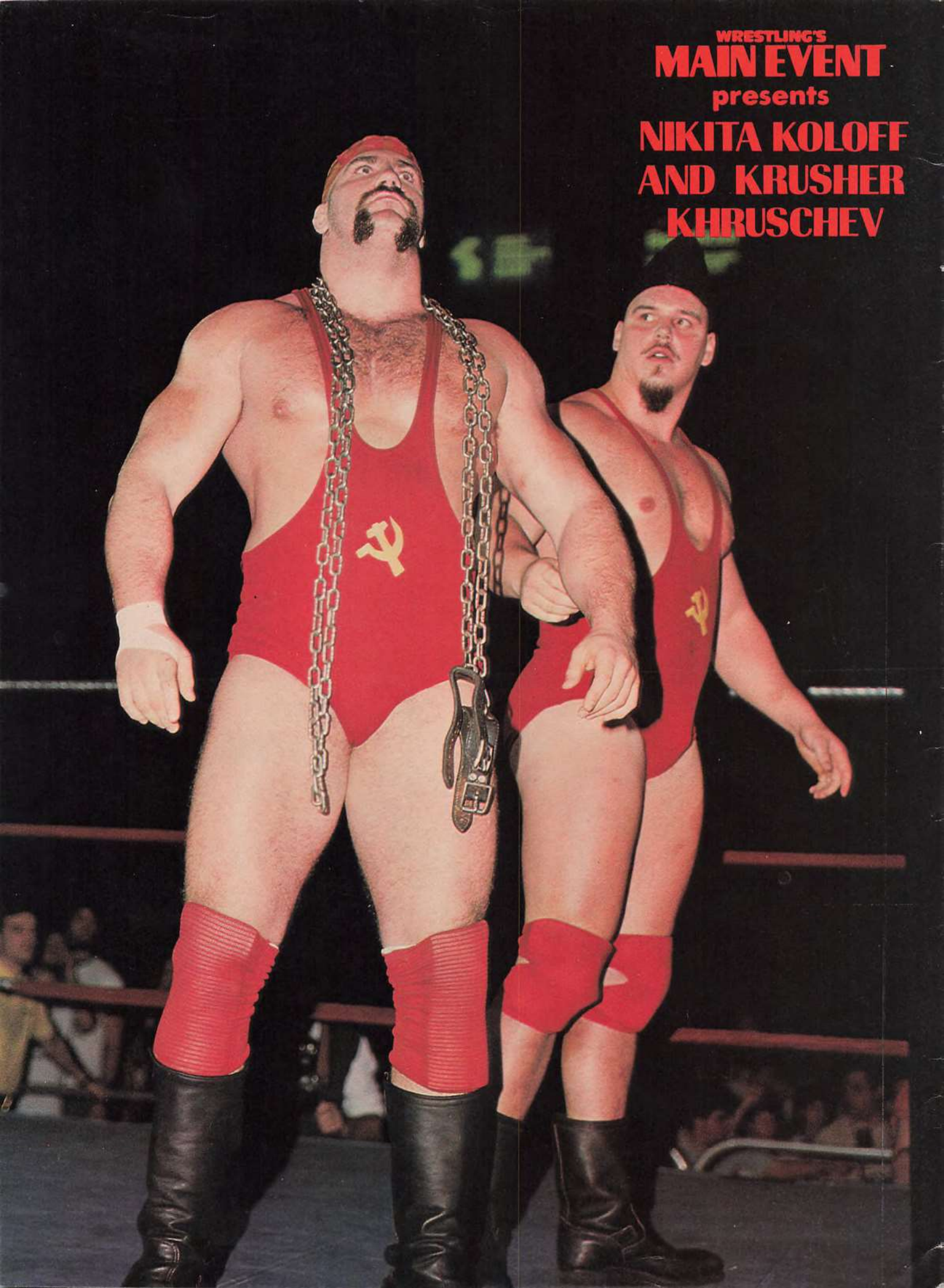
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